Folder 8: Stauffer, Emma (Wales) 1935-1938

April
17th
1935

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Pt. Barrow, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

It is rather difficult for me to answer your telegram satisfactorily by wire. When we sent you to Barrow we appointed you for one year, and it was my expectation that we would renew your appointment year by year as long as your work continued to be satisfactory. The Board does not give me or any other administrative officer the authority to appoint anyone for an extended term of years.

For this reason I was obliged to wire you that we could not assume responsibility for any arrangements you might make to remain in Barrow "for several years". My authority does not go any farther than to give you your appointment from year to year. In view of the condition of Dr. Greist's health, and in view of the possibility of his coming to the States this spring as a Commissioner to the General Assembly, and in view of the expectation of his retirement within two years, it seems to me to be necessary for you to remain at Barrow in your present position, and I am planning at the expiration of your first year to renew your appointment for another year.

Trusting that this is satisfactory, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Wales, Alaska.
Apr 7.1936

Dr,J.M.Somerndike,
156__5th Ave.
New York,
N.Y.

Dear Dr Somerndike:

Your letter of Feb. 27th arrived last Sabbath,and may I thank you for your kindness of response to my request in repairs for the Manse. If it were possible for you to see the luxury of the Manse at Barrow: for a Missionary's residence: then see the poverty and barrenness and badly weather beaten outside of this house then you could reason out my asking for material to keep out as much cold here as possible,and for me to write my thanks does not really express my actual appreciation of your kindness.

And the flour to pay the men will be a great blessing,as it has been very,very difficult for them this spring,supplies have run short at the native store,partly because the store is in default financially with the government for supplies and thus the prices here are sohigh that the honest native who does try to deal here and pay his own debt has to often go away to Teller for flour,sugar,etc . But the new teacher seems to be a good business man and is doing his best to try to get this store on its feet again,so we hope for satisfaction in his kindness and help to the native in the future.

The Catechisms did not arrive in this mail,and I do not see why they did not;as your calendars and Sunday school supplies have came,but my Post Master tells me to ask you to please send a searher out after them: through your Post Master from whose office they were shipped or mailed.as that will be the best way to locate them.

I will write you later in detail about the work here as I presume you may wish to use it for some purpose. Suffice it to say at the present that I asked Rev.E.Hartji,of the Lutheran Mission to come and hold the services for Infant Baptism and Communion,which he very kindly did,and we had just fifteen new members added to the membership of the church,and thirteen babies and children baptized besides. These I will get a picture of and send with my letter when the weather gets warm enough to have them outdoors long enough to get a snapshot of them.

And now I need To have 4 pints of Grape juice to use for a next Communion service when we can happen to have one.

I am wondering if you will be sending any one to Barrow soon to take Dr Greists place_(I ask this because it is all the talk up this way and in fact has been written me from Barrow that the Greists are going out this year)__ if so and it can be possible I am asking you to please send them to Wales on an early ship_ as ships get here long before they can go to Barrow__ and I will accomodate them as long as necessary to the end that the Minister will hold services and get Elders and Trustees appointed and make it,here in Wales seem like a real active Congregation. We have a goodly number of adults who feel it very much that we have to get a minister from another denomination to Baptize their children,and I myself do not like it,but I felt obliged to do it as the Catholics are trying to push in every where they can,I was very surprised to learn that I have one Catholic family in Wales,which my people are very much in dislike of,but they are here. If you cannot send them direct to Wales by ship they can get to Nome and come from there by Plane,which is about 100 miles and is not very expensive as the Planes come often to Teller, which is only about 65 miles south of here,as well too they come to TinCity which is only 6 miles south of here,and I will then go to meet them,as my natives will take me in the Walrus hide boat and bring us back here too.

I am going to send my typewriter out on this mail for repairs,and I will send it to Mr Gould,with as here to,instruction that if it cant be fixed without an unreasonable expense,then get me a new one of the same make and size and send to me as soon as possible. I fear this is what needds to be done as this is a second hand machine,and I have used it over ten years so I need to have something that will be saticfactory,and this size is most convenient to take when traveling, But in case this size in this make cannot no longer be purchased then please kindly try to get a good and as convenient a size in some other make.

Am sending my clock also,which got out of order in shipping to Barrow, and as there is nothing here in the clock line,and no where reliable to get one repaired I thot possibly Mr Gould could get this done and send it back on the last ship ~~ship~~ with my flour etc. Am sending my wrist watch too for repairs;along with my clock.

Would it be possible to get some sort of thin board that is varnished and finished suitable color to match a dark walnut wood. What I want this for is to take the place of the glass in the doors and sides of piece of very good furniture here that one day had glass in it,but as the glassis an attraction for children and most unsatisfactory(what is laft of it) I will give you the size of the pieces needed and see what you can do about it.

2 pieces,size 10,1/2 inches wide,by 42,1/2 inches long.
2 " " 14 " " " " 42,1/2 " " .

And some very small screws to put the above on with.

I presume there will be nails come along with your shingles for the Manse. Guess you know the size of the Manse,add a bit extra to cover the odd corners on the side that faces North and does not show in a snapshot.

And please may the paint brushes be about not more than three inch in breadth,thus will be satisfactory for either inside or outside work.

And may I ask for some <u>dark green</u> window shades and their fixtures:

Amount,2, size, width 28 inch by 2,1/2 yds length
" 2 " " 32 " " 2,1/2 " "

And I fear I forgot to ask for Insulated wire about 50 ft for Radio and fixtures to put it on with.

Now maybe you can help me solve another broblem . and that is this; All this winter I have used snow for the water supply except once in ten days of two weeks,if weather permitted, I would get a Lard can:5 gallon: brot by sled from one spring that does not freeze over in winter that is a mile or there abouts from my house,but keeping this huge water tank that is connected with the kitchen Range sufficiently full of water is a great problem when the snow is so little it is not fit to use. But all winter it has been clean and I have cooked with it. Now summer is comming,and how glad I am about it too, but the water supply is so far away and the getting it,is a task, to me it would seem best if I had a heavy durable covered,(that is a lid that fits as on a Dairy milk can,) vessel: such as two five gallon milk cans(the low down broad type,about 20 inches high) that a 9 pr 10 year old lad can handle, and then if you think it best we could use some sort of a conveyance to haul them here in,but it must be something that these lads can handle,and I will keep it in the Manse for Mission use only,as I have done with the sled I had made for the same purpose this winter.'.

You use your judgement in regard to the water question it is no use to try to pipe it here the pipes would freeze,and the children carrying it in old buckets as they did last Fall with their reeking dirty skirts of their clothes into the buckets is not just what it might be either,when it comes to drinking water.

My window garden is doing well,green onions ready for eating: in Alaska! Appreciating your kindness and help I remain Obediently yours. Emma M. Stanford

Wales. Alaska.

Apr. 9 1926.

Mr. J.M. Somerndike.
#156 - 5th Ave.
New York.
N. Y.

Dear Mr. Somerndike:

If this does not reach you too late will you please add the following onto this years order:

1 - Large: ~~Hasp etc~~ suitable for a large ordinary type church door.
1 - Medium: " etc suitable .. a door of a residence.
2 - Yale Padlocks - having 2 keys each -

100 lbs - yellow - corn - meal - to be sent with my flour.
2 - 5 lb tins of Royal Baking Powder.

My corn-meal and pea-nut butter somehow were put into native store last year - and have not yet - and may never be found - I have waited patiently for them to take stock of their remaining supplies - as they told me they did annually about April 1st - but seems they have not done this and will maybe never get it done -

And I can't actually accuse them of taking these things - as I: last year: did not know I would have to stay on the Beach and all enemy article that came ashore. And only by chance saw a box labeled to mission being carried into the store: where upon I followed the carrier into the store-room: and then and there personally took out many, many parcels that were plainly labeled in my name & the mission.

But I would rather lose cornmeal & peanut butter than get into any controversy with the Gov. School-teachers- who demands to know if I ever seen these articles- well I can't say I saw them as I trusted the natives to be honest- but the Bill of goods from the "Derblay" has these articles checked as having came ashore here- But I doubt if the Store will do anything about them- & will wait and see- In the mean-time- please try to fill orders in this letter.

Sincerely yours
Edna M. Stauffer R.N.

Wales. Alaska.

Apr-11-1934.

Rt. J. M. Somerndike
"15-6-5th Ave.
New York.
N. Y.

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

Will you please kindly let me know what the rule of the church is in dealing with girls: and young men too: of base immoral character.

We are now confronted with this difficult problem - and my Elder wants to know: and I do also; just what we should do with them -

All parties concerned are so bold and shameless - seems to me they should be severely censured - They did not confess - until I questioned them - And neither will they get married - man refused.

and as they are all long since of age;
their parents now have no influence
what ever.

Hoping to hear from you soon —
with full instructions what I should
do I remain

Yours
Sincerely
Emma M. Stauffer

Wales. Alaska.

Apr. 15. 1934

Rev. J. E. Yanel.

Fairbanks.

Alaska.

Dear Rev. Yanel;

Enclosed please find my report for the month ending Apr. 14th 1934.

You will note I requested Rev. E. Hartji of Lutheran Mission of Shishmaref to come and hold Communion services and infant Baptismal services for me - which he very kindly did - We also had fifteen new members added to our Church membership at the same time - These had been baptized in infancy -

The attendance and interest in most meetings have been very good - considering that most all the time a number of Wales residents are away hunting, trapping or after the Reindeer herd.

Due to a high degree of immorality amongst the natives of the adolescent age - I am changing many of my meetings - as you will notice next month.

I may need to respond to the request of Rev. and Mrs. Hartji to help at the Confinement of Mrs. Hartji - in case they are not able to get the Government nurse

-to help them - she I am informed will be in Shishmaref on Apr-20-th - but whether she will wait until after every thing is over and all done - I do not know - Rev. Hartje asked me when he was here - if I would help them if they needed me - and I felt I could not conscientiously refuse - so I told him I would go if they could not get the Government nurse - She does look after Government people I know - but whether she will wait to help our Missionaries - I cannot say - but I am telling you what I might be obliged to do before I do it - And I sincerely hope you understand the situation.

The Government nurse has not as yet come to Wales and I hear does not plan to come this year.

If in case I am away the Elder Laws Eungevenuk will be quite capable to arrange for and hold the Sunday services as well as Prayer-meetings during my absence -

A person finds it hard to refuse helping people even tho they be of another Denomination - and I think surely Our Mission would not object to me having a change of Environment for a short time, if the occasion calls me.

Sincerely yours

Emma M. Steffler M.D.

May
5th
1936

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I have your letters of recent date. I think you should have a copy of the "Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church and Form of Government", so I am sending a copy to you today. In reading it you will discover that the only way to deal with church members who are guilty of adultery is to discipline them according to the rule set forth in the Confession of Faith and Form of Government.

It occurs to me that it might be a good idea if you could be appointed as a deputy U. S. Commissioner; and in that capacity you could deal with cases where the men refused to marry the mothers of their children, on the basis of the Alaska law which I understand is very clear on this point. If you feel that it would be desirable for you to have the appointment as U. S. Commissioner, I will take up the matter with the Attorney General in Washington and lay the facts before him, requesting that this be done.

I hope that the Lutheran minister who baptized the children, administered the Communion, and received members into the church, did not give the people the idea that they were being received into the Lutheran Church or that he had any control over them. It does not seem to me that it is advisable to ask Dr. Greist to stop in Wales on his way out of Barrow. I would much rather have Mr. Klerekoper, who is now our missionary at Skagway but who will be going to Barrow to take Dr. Greist's place in July, to arrange to stop at Wales and hold some services, appoint elders and trustees, and get the congregation organized in the proper way. I think you will have to teach the people that they should have their children baptized by a Presbyterian minister, and I am quite confident that we can arrange in the future to have one of our ministers come to Wales once or twice a year to take care of baptisms, receive members into the church, etc., even if it is necessary to bring a minister in by plane especially for this service.

I am writing to Mr. Gould, asking him to send up the additional materials you have requested, and I hope that it will not be too late to get them on the "Holmes". I will ask him also to have everything consigned to you and marked specifically with your name so that it will be delivered to you; but I think it is very important for you to be on hand when the boat is unloaded so that you can inspect all the packages and see that you get everything that we are sending to you.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

May 13, 1936

Mouse Furn
Dept

Presbyterian Board of Missions
% Gene C. Gould
1204 American Bank Bldg
Seattle, Washington

Gentlemen:

Your order for shipment to Miss Emma M. Stauffer, item six only generators, automatic cleaner, for Redylite lamp No. 256, we are sending Coleman generators R99 on the recommendation of the local service station of Redylite lamps, who state that this generator is interchangeable with the Redylite and more satisfactory.

Referring to the item of twelve only burner cap and screens, we are sending Coleman burner cap and screens and Coleman burner tubes. The Redylite service station advises that the particular type of burner cap and screens formerly used on this Redylite lamp were troublesome and they are now using a burner tube, cap and screens, which interchange with the Coleman and, therefore, should be Coleman parts as the regular parts are not available in Seattle.

Referring to the item of three only pumps for No. 256 lamp, the local service station advises that none of them are available except at the factory. They further state that it is very rare for the pumps to give out but that the pump leathers require replacing. We are, therefore, sending three pump leathers. They also state that if there is a leak of gasoline back into the pump that the cork seat at the end

of the pump sometimes gets hard and splits if the lamp is not in use for some time, but can easily be repaired by taking any common bottle cork and cutting a small piece to replace this cork gasket. If the complete pumps are required advise us and we will have them mailed from the factory, but as stated above, they are not available in the city.

Very truly yours,

SCHWABACHER HARDWARE COMPANY

By
House Furn Dept

JPC:J#

Wales. Alaska.

May-16-1936

Rev. J. E. Youel.
Fairbanks.
Ala.

Dear Rev. Youel:

Please find my reports enclosed; which you will find are not so full- for this month- Partly because it is the season for Whaling and Walrus hunting- when most all men are away from town: and partly because I was absent myself from the afternoon of Apr. 26th until the afternoon of May 13th And it is true that when the Missionary is out of town- the population are more or less dilatory at attending church meetings. Tho some are very, very faithful- our Elder: Louis Tungwenuk is one of the best men I have- and is very good in church and Sunday school work, whether I am here or not.

You may recall my previous note telling I may be asked to go to a near by town to care for the Missionary's wife during confinement—

And much to my surprise—a telegram came for me over the Gov. School teacher's Radio telephone—from the Gov. Nurse—telling me to go as she could not go—so as I knew more as to details concerning the time some nurse should be there—I made haste to get there—

Tho it took us traveling hard for two days to get there; between 75 and 80 miles—as the trails are melting very fast. But I got there in time—everything went well—and I am now back at Wales—and to say I was busy does not begin to tell everything.

Rev. Hartzi—himself drove his own dog-team and brot me home—then I went with him to the homes—and we Baptized four babies that had been born since he was here in March.

I sincerely hope the Mission Board will not object to my having responded to the call to help Mrs. Hartzi—because they are both young people—and this is the first child—and they were most hospitable to me—And it gave me a little vacation and a change of environment for a few days. I made no charge and I do hope the mission will not—had they been Government people I could have received

and I would have learned such lessons can-
-not be learned out of Books and get to understand them much
to; even from my associated labours with
Missionaries it is a distant region.

As soon as my villagers begin to
move away for the Summer - I may close
down on some of my meetings - as there will
not be many people left to attend them.

Was happy to hear - and - you
or Mr. Somerndike.

Sincerely yours
Emma M. Stanford M. D.

Wales. Alaska.
June-1st/1936

Mr. J. M. Somerndike.
#156 - 5th Ave.
New York.
N. Y.

Dear Mr. Somerndike:

When Miss Bannan was here: either she or the Mission gave some old ~~the~~ lumber of the old Mission house to the Wales Village Natives to make a little building that was to be used as the Wales Village store.

So now they are ready to occupy the building and have asked me to have a paper drawn up by the Mission Board to the effect that the Mission (Presbyterian) gave the lumber to make the store building - for the Natives here - And I think right here it would be best to insert - that this building is to known as "The Wales Village" or "The Wales Native Store" - this latter would be more suitable, as some of them do not like the term village any too well.

Please will you sign it as the Mission Board Authorative person - and have a place for me to sign it as the Mission's local Representative. We would like to have two copies - one that I may keep in the Records here - and one to give to the store keeper.

My reason in consenting to the Store keeper's and some Natives' request for this document is that not long ago: the Reindeer Co. here tried to take Store and anything they could from the villagers - but it just happened there were a few who looked out for their weaker brothren so they saved the day: so to speak for the rest of the town at that time. But as long as we have such Natives as some of the older ones are - they will try to even take this store building as their own.

#2 - Dr. Somerndike June 1st 1936

But now they have a very nice, neat and tho small place for their store - they want your paper stating it is the gift of the Mission to the Natives of Wales.

Also may I beg you to please not let any request that may be sent you to get your permission for to change the Name of the Store to any Reindeer Co or Corporation influence you in any way toward the Native Eskimo of Wales.

Hoping you may find time to give this your early attention I am

Yours Cordially
Emma M. Stauffer P.N.

Wales. Alaska.

June-2-1934

Mr. J. M. Somerndike
#156- Fifth Ave.
New York.
N. Y.

Dear Mr. Somerndike:

Your request for a letter of the weekly proceedings for a week has been in hand for some time and should have been answered long ago. So tho my typewriter is still in the good old U. S. A. I will try and respond to your request by hand even at this late date.

Since I last wrote you I have had some very busy days- On one occasion- Apr. 13th I started on a sixty mile one day trip to Teller Alaska by dog sled- two Eskimo men were making the trip I was passenger on one main sled going to Teller- while the other man hauled freight and mail that could not be taken by the regular mailman- Then on the return trip I was passenger on the other main sled and the other man on mine sled I rode going out, hauled going in We made the trip in one day, arriving at Lutheran Mission just twelve hours from the time we left home We spent the day visiting in Teller on Tuesday- and early Wednesday morning at 7 1/2 A. M.

2/
- got into the bear-skin bag which was on the sled and was tucked fast to the sled and we started homeward on what seemed might be a fine day.
But about five miles out of Teller mission we were unfortunate in finding ourselves in a region that was so cold and the snow so hard that with great difficulty we were able to see the log-cabin and the tall stakes marking the trail to the shelter Cabin which we reached by 12 o'clock noon fully expecting to be compelled to halt there until the snow storm blew past - but as we at our Primus stove made coffee and thawed our frozen sandwiches, the sun shone very brightly - so we hastened to get on our way and to the trail was ours, we had contrived to eat it had also when we must route - we succeeded in getting to Wales at 10 o'clock P.M.
The Missionaries at Teller Mission are friends of mine so I had taken this three day jaunt to the end that we might spend a few hours together as some few to meet fellow-workers and share our mutual burdens makes the pleasures of one's life in the cold frozen Arctic region.
On returning at night to Wales - unto my house is at the southern end of the town there were folks from all sections on hand to help me get unpacked and settled for the night. And was glad to get out of that bear-skin bag

3/ Volume 2 had been fastened in for Lucia."
That was Wednesday evening. On Thursday
we had our regular Prayer meeting service with
a good attendance.
Friday evening we have the Adult Bible Class
And Saturday we have the two separate Junior
Bible Classes - one for Boys, and one for girls.
Also the Children's Bible class when the
weather is so that they can attend.
That brings us up to the Sabbath day meetings
with Sabbath-school at 11. o'clock A. M. We hold
the Opening in the Church where we all meet -
then the Primary Department, which consists of
three separate classes I bring to the Church -
after the class period I take them back to the church
for the closing exercises.
Louis Tanquinus - the only Church Elder we have
is with the Adult Sunday School and Theodore
Statler is his assistant.
I myself am the supt for the Primary Dept.
Before the Spring hunting I was to Marion
six times and held evening prayer meeting
and Song service - but I have had to discontinue
them for the summer, as so many members are out
of town almost all the time.

4/ I have discontinued Mothers Club indefinitely because so few came and getting water for bathing purposes is practically out of the question.
And the women Bible Class are discontinued because a few claiming they could not understand English and not more than one or four would come. Then the women do have to be out fishing thru holes in the ice so much that I did not deem it wise to try to carry on with them two meetings—
I had a "Mothers and Baby" social gathering and party inviting those who had small children and babies—but that very day the hunters returned bringing several seals and Walrus home to be skinned and cared for—so this ended having to quickly sew together new Walrus hides to repair the skin boat for the hunters made it that I had only six women at the party.
But I now have a separate Bible class for four young women who were in my First Junior Bible Class, who are now teachers and sub-teachers in the Primary Sabbath School dept.
Also because so many of the adult teachers for the Adult Sabbath School are men who have to go hunting I have just temporarily been holding my Adult Bible Class for them Sabbath morning at 9:30 A.M. instead of on Friday evenings.
I have aimed to concentrate the meetings toward the end of the week as it does seem

5/ so that those who are out in boats hunting and are often gone a whole week at a time try to return near Sabbath morning.

But soon after Sabbath school is over if it is suitable weather they go out again.

This may seem strange to people in the states - but these Eskimo do not have places from which to obtain their food - and much less have no ready money with which to buy meat if the stores were here. There are certain times in the year when they must obtain their meat supply from the sea - and if for any reason they fail to then get Whale and Walrus as these animals are going either southward or northward then that means they are short on their own and their dogs meat supply for the whole year.

And if there are Reindeer inland - but the getting of the reindeer is accompanied with many drawbacks that result in the natives getting very little meat to eat.

As for my work medically - there are very few calls to Point - but as the natives are in the habit of receiving two Christmases - I have many calls at the birthstand - mostly of a trivial nature but take up much of my time - especially when they get their dates lodged in their throat.

We usually retire after two around about ten or eleven o'clock at night.

4/ Two I have had two cases of Pneumonia in infants and had to keep the infant and mother here in my home. One infant made a good recovery, while the other one died.

These days we have day light practically the whole twenty-four hours of the day - And as the Eskimo has no conception of time of day - so a meeting at a set time means nothing to him - when he knows he has to hunt for his livlihood.

I am sending a letter to Miss Vint in this mail also - & you wish it is available to you tho it is of a different type entirely.

This one being more as things have been lately except that I do not make more than one trip to Teller yearly.

But I did be obliged to go to Shishmaref which I was asked to do by the Gov. Nurse - because she was obliged to remain at Igloo - Alaska to care for Natives suffering from a mild type of Influenza - Then she contracted the disease herself - so I went and took care of the Missionary's wife - and when I left them the baby boy was a week old and both Mother and baby were doing fine - But I certainly am glad to serve others - but I prefer to not have to take 80 mile trip by dog sled in cold weather.

Sincerely Yours Emma M. Hunter.

Wales. Alaska.
June-5-1936

Sent out to Cape Rendlea Co. Wales Alaska 6-11-36 "Lavina" "Bowers" "Mary"

Rev. J. M. Lamendike.
#156-5th Ave.
New York.
N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lamendike:

You will find enclosed the Statement of the Mission Account at the Cape Rendlea Co. here. Mission has but 24 cts

I just today received this statement - tho in vain I tried to obtain it when I purchased the goods.

As the store Accounts are in very, very bad shape, the new Eskimo who has recently been appointed store keeper may find other things against the Mission. But if so I will hope to pay it with some of the flour you are sending me for labor this summer.

Yours respectfully.

Emma M. Stanton.

Wales. Alaska.

June 6-1936

Dear Mr. Somerndike;

Now today the ice is all loose and has almost all been carried out to Sea by the strong south wind that is making the Sea too rough for the Eskimo to be out in their hunting boats, so they have all came home- for boats that is fine crews and they had only one very small Walrus.

This is Saturday and I have been busy with my Girls Jr. Bible Class at 10. A.M. Primary Sunday School Teachers Class at 1 30 P.M. Children meeting at 4. P.M.

And the Boys Jr. Bible Class at 7. P.M. was attended but one boy only- so I shall just discontinue this class possibly until next winter- because then they get tired being shut in their igloos and some of them will come then- but now it is more than discouraging to try to hold meeting for them.

And an elderly man has been here three times today, 1 to get treatment for an infected

#2 Wm. Lamerdike June-6-1936

- land which includes to some serious for him.

I have just yesterday succeeded in getting one side of the Coal-bin lined with a make-shift floor to carry the weight of the coal for next year - using some bits of boards & things etc until possibly by another year I thought the Mission might be willing to help in putting a floor in the whole coal-bin - Because I did not know in the month of Jan. 1936 - that there were no floors in these bins - or that I would need to dig the coal with Pick or mattock since in early March. Simply due to the fact that the bottom of the bin is two feet lower than the level of the ground outdoors; since the water from the melting snow has come in and made everything very wet.

May I inquire if the Mission has any deed to this or the Church property - and are you willing if you do not, to go to the expense of putting a good floor in the Coal-bin.

Also may I ask if the Mission would be willing to furnish the necessary lumber

#3- Mr. Armandine - Wales. June 6-1934

- it would take to build a room - (and have a little old fashioned school-house stove in it) onto one end or the side of this house in which all the meetings that I now have to hold in my living quarters could be held. (not regular Adult Sunday-school or Sunday Prayer-service)

As I find it most inconvenient to get every little article out of the reach of those who lift things - but the worst problem is to keep fuel from vermin as when they come into my living room and bedroom - both are small - and both are occupied at meetings which are held at the house all winter long - except Sunday meetings - then we do try to heat the church building - but it is never half-comfortably warm even after several hours firing and if we had a smaller room built onto the side of this place it would be convenient for meetings all winter long as during cold weather - there are not many come.

Or if the Mission does not think it best to do this - then I will have to put up with them in my living quarters. They will soon have all my linoleum trampled out - and all my chairs broken up - I simply put all my rocking chairs out of their reach. Hard oak-board floors and substantial rough wood benches are in keeping with all things I have to use. Waiting to hear from you on this matter. I am -

Emma M. Stauffer

June 12th, 1936.

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska.

My dear Miss Stauffer:—

I enclose receipted bills for supplies shipped you by Schooner C. S. Holmes, as follows:

Reliable Typewriter Co., Typewriter repairs,	$9.62	
W. B. Clifton, Clock and watch repairs,	1.75	
Kodak Store, Kodak supplies,	6.00	Parcel Post
Maynard Pharmacy, Cough Medicine,	5.50	Parcel Post
Sears Roebuck, General Supplies,	23.13	
John Backland, coal and freight,	370.50	
" " gas and kerosene,	20.85	
Schwabacher Hdw. Co. hardware,	160.80	
" " " "	17.35	
" " " shingle nails,	6.50	
" Grocery Co.	173.73	

The items of

Typewriter repairs,	$9.62
Clock repairs,	1.75
Kodak supplies,	6.00
Cough Medicine,	5.50
Radio, extra batteries, etc.,	64.85
Making a total of	$87.72

were paid for out of Board funds so I would suggest that you send to the Board direct your check for $87.72.

I hope very much that you will be thoroughly satisfied with your Radio. In very strict confidence I may tell you that the retail price of this instrument, with only one set of batteries, is $81.50. You will note that I was able to get you the very favorable price of $37.85. With the two extra sets of batteries, you should be able to operate for at least a year and perhaps longer, without any renewal.

I enclose a letter from Schwabacher Hardware Co., rela-

tive to the generators for Redylite Lamp which is self-explanatory. I enclose, also, a copy of the requisition sent to Mr. A. Polet in Nome for fresh fruits, vegetables, etc., to be shipped you this fall. I trust that you will receive them in good condition. We have purchased from Mr. Polet for a number of years and have never had any difficulty of any kind.

Captain Backland was to order the shingles for the Manse and take them with him, but by some mischance he overlooked ordering them. He assured me, however, that he would order them by Radio and they will be delivered to you by either Captain Backland's or some other boat. You will note that I sent you a keg of shingle nails and I hope very much that the shingles will arrive in time so that you can get them on before bad weather sets in.

I sincerely hope that everything will arrive in first class condition and that it will prove entirely satisfactory. I have used my very best endeavors to see that your orders were filled in a way which I hope will please you.

With all good wishes and kindest personal regards,
I am,

Most cordially yours,

GCG:G

Gene C. Gould.

June
29th
1936

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I am in receipt of your very interesting letter of June 1st, and I am enclosing herewith a letter with reference to the building material which I hope will satisfy the situation.

We shall pay the bill which you enclosed. I hope, however, that you will not find any more old bills, because I am rather short of money just now.

I deeply sympathize with your desire for an extra room to be built on to the manse. If there were any lumber available, I would authorize you to go ahead and have this extra room built, but I fear that you cannot obtain lumber locally and it is now too late to send some up to Wales this year. You certainly ought not to be obliged to use a pickaxe to get out your coal, and I hope that the arrangements you have made will provide at least a temporary remedy. If you will tell me how much lumber you will need for the extra room and for proper storage space for the coal, I will see that it is sent up next year; or if you can get some lumber locally - at least enough to put a floor in the coal bin - please feel authorized to go ahead and do so now.

I suppose you would have no trouble in getting local labor to put on the extra room. Of course you will have to provide roofing material also. If you will send me specifications indicating exactly how much lumber and roofing material you will need, and the size of the room that you want, we shall plan to send it up next year with a sufficient quantity of celotex to line the inside of the room to keep out the cold.

I have asked Mr. Klerekoper to stop at Wales on his way to Barrow, and I earnestly trust that he will be able to make arrangements to do so.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

June
29th
1936

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

When Miss Bannan was the missionary in charge of the station at Wales, she donated some lumber from our old mission house, to the natives at Wales for the purpose of erecting a building to be used as a village store. Miss Bannan obtained permission from the Board to donate the lumber for this purpose.

It is understood, therefore, in view of the donation of the lumber for the store, that the building is to be used solely and exclusively for the purpose indicated and in the interests of the natives, and that the building cannot be used for any other purposes without your permission as our official representative in charge of the Wales station.

Very truly yours,

JMS:BH

Have pd for bldg material left by Backland + for flour sugar, etc. left by Backland to pay Eskimos for labor on mission house! She must make best arrangement she can as to wages, but should impress natives with the fact that this provides them an opportunity to express gratitude for what they have received from the Missionaries.

~~House~~

Repairs to roof of Church + manse. - OK. - order what material is needed. Also lumber for additional room.

Missing Schwabacher bill

30 lb peanuts @ 9½. 2.85
500 - paper bags. .55

Invoice # 2361 Date 7/13/36

Nails Paddock Co. amt. 17.70
Bourbon

Only the milk cans included in this bill arrived. Bal. not read # 3.25
Also "1 case of paper 9 x 11 5" missing
only delivered 5 cases of gasoline
White bill calls for 6 serving him 22½
delivered 4 cases of Kerosene 24½
(this dif. Evans)
Schwabacher bill + short
5 cases Borden Milk 15.90
1 tin of Bacon 1.84

14.48 per mo. to be deducted for food during year beg: Oct. 1

Wales, Alaska.
July.8th.1936

Dr.J.M.Somerndike,
#156__5th Ave.
New York.
N.Y.

Dear Dr Somerndike,

Enclosed please find my check covering expense of my Radio,etc,Kodak supplies,Medicine,and repairs to my typewriter,clock and watch: all of which have arrived safely by the S S Holmes.

Everything that has arrived is in good condition,and I am indeed very grateful to you for the lovely Blankets and Mattress,the former I will save until mercury gets near to zero this fall,but the latter was put into use the day of arrival,and I was almost lost in it after using one of a two inch thickness for a year,so I thank you again for it.

I had a letter from Mr Gould about the day ere S S Holmes reached here; he spoke of Capt. Backland,not having gotten the Shingles,as it seems he was to have done,stating Capt assured him that he would get them by Radio message,which he did not do,and as it looked to me as if the outlook for me getting Shingles by a later ship and getting them on the Manse ere cold weather began,was impossible,I decided to take advantage of something he might have aboard ship that would answer the purpose. So I went out to the ship and Capt,and I talked Shingles etc for a long time,he seemed to think Shingles very much more expensive than some lumber he had that he called ship_lap,said he and the Architect had discussed this problem too,and the ship_lap was the cheapest of the two. And I did not hardly know what to do, but under the circumstances it seemed best to get what was the nearest at hand

As a result he has left with me he said about ~~4000~~* 4000 ft of lumber,to cover the three sides of the Manse(as Iwill not do-anything-to the fourth side of the Manse until I hear from you,~~and~~* about making the room there that I wrote to you about) enough for a floor in my coal bins,and also enough to put in a petetion in the church to make us a coal room that can be kept shut and locked. I asked him for extra small keg of nails also.

I also got from him(roofing?) paper to put on the house between the old boards and the Ship_lap___15__ rolls and I have nails for it.

I do hope what I have done by getting these things from Captain Backland will not get me into trouble with the Mission,but I felt if you were in my place you would likely have done the same,rather than freeze yourself,or dig coal with a pick several times daily,or be after the Town Councilmen to have their Mayor return things he helped himself to on Xmas eve last winter while we were busy with the Xmas Program things.

+

As for the room I would like to build onto the northside of the Manse,the roof on the upper side of the Manse is leaking in several spots (as is also the roof on the main church building) and it seems likely this will have to be repaired by another year,so by using the hallway I now have on the northside of the house,and the same outside door,a very suitable room could be built on at not a great expense, But I will wait until I hear from you as I will have to get next year by S S Holmes some heavier lumber than anything I got this time to put under the floor,at least I think it best. However all the necessary things can be seen to later,when I see how much material is left after I get the Manse weather boarded this summer. Cptains lumber was very,very wet,so he told me to not put it ontothe house for 2 or 3 weeks,but to pile it out to dry,well I had men pile it as he said to do,and I hope it will get dry. It is raining so frequently these days

Now Captain said we should build a new Manse here,but I do not agree with him as this is such a cheery little house,lets in so much sun_ shine,and when it is covered with new weather boarding and painted,and it is

____a way to preserve lumber to keep it painted,there is no need for a new Manse here at all. Besides not only this,the Sea comes in here very close at times and I do not think it advisable to ever put another building here.

But when I get this old weather beaten Patriarch,weather boarded and I hope to have enough to give it one coat of paint this fall,it will be a credit to the Mission and not a disgrace as it now is. This is plain talk, but it is the truth. And the Mission buildings at Barrow are so nice.

There were no Peanuts came this year for the Natives. But I have candy and the popcorn came with my supplies. But no paper bags have yet came.

But Captain Backland could not locate all that had been sent by the shipping bill that Mr Gould sent me(I was very thankful for this,or I would have fared badly) and which only got here two days ahead of S S Holmes, These were missing__

1 CTN HDWE WEIGHT 10 LBS
1 CS PAPER " 9½ "

And as I think this HWE box must have contained my door Hasps etc,I aasked him to send me some Hasps etc and door latches from Kotzebu,the Store here does not have any this year. Capt.said I might eventually get these two boxes as it might be that he had put them off at St Lawrence Island,but chances are poor for that to take place this year as from letters I have gotten from Miss Bannan, I know the Trading ship as well as the Coast Guard Cutter have long ago been there and gone,so I have little hopes of getting theme boxes. The C.G.Northland is due here any day according to word sent me from GOV. nurse. And Captain just brot 5 boxes etc here of Miss Bannans(amongst them her Radio) for me to send back to her by the first chance that comes.

Also in spite of my telling Capt.the amount of gasoline and kerosene due me he sent me just 5 cases of gasoline and
4 " kerosene___
but I may be able to get some more gasoline from the Store here,if they have any that is fit to use in lamps,or I may get one case from the GOV.ship late this fall.

As for my order from Schwackers,I am short just 5 cases of milk,
1 tin of Bacon

Would it be asking too much to let me have the Schwacker bill of my food supplies,not that I wish to pay it direct,but just to keep a check up on them.

As you will see by the list sent you I ordered Carnation milk 4 cases; then on a later order I asked for 5 cases of Bordens milk(which they did not ship) and they filled the first order with Bordens milk.

The last food order sent in was for a Native,whose order I financed,and who will work for me to pay for it,is the only reason I sent a second order last January. I will manage to get along myself on what I had left from last yr and let thenative have what came in for me.

And unless I am badly mistaken,I only asked for two 5 gal milk cans and they sent me five,but I will put the excess ones in the attic,to have when my two get worn out.

Is there any way you could have the PAPER BAGS sent to me for the natives treat at Xmas ,unless I get them I have no way of giving them the candy and poppcorn,and unless PNUTS come yet they will not have any this year.

#3 Dr Somerndike,

I also got 40 sacks of FLOUR from Captain Backland
10 " " SUGAR _____50 lbs each """
15 cases " MILK - "
1 case " COFFEE ____(24 pounds)

To use to pay the Longshoring
Piling lumber

and will use these as much as is needed to pay the work on the Manse. So far I have onlypaid for the longshoringand lumber piling,but as soon as the lumbr is dry I will try and get the men to work at getting it on the Manse,because toward Fall it drizzles rain almost incessantly.

I have paid in trade,at the same price as the goods are here at the Store,except when some refused to accept these goods,they wanted dry goods,for which I have sanctioned the Missions credit to them at the Store.

And I hope this is satisfactory with you.

The rate that was paid them last year for longshoring was 5 ¢ a trip fpr packages of one man size,10 ¢/for two man size box, 6 ¢ a sack for coal(which I will have to-pay 21/2 or 3¢ each to get emptied later on,during the winter time) And I kept score of the Longshoring myself - much to their disgust

And both the Government teachers and myself are out of humor at these Natives demanding 40 ¢ per hour for work,even the better Carpenters actually charge 50 ¢ per hour,and wont work for any less,not one good Carpenter would work at putting up the new Store for any less,

I told Elder Lewis Tungwenuk that they should be willing to work for the Mission at$1.50 per day and board themselves,even that I think is too much(the Friends Mission at Noatak, AKA,have been building a Church and the Missionary tells me that all labor is donated,and the Mission feeds them,but that it would seem best to try to arrange diffently as it is nearly an impossibility to feed them.

So Lewis has not talked to me again about the wage question, I fear if he insists on such high wages(and when he works he only wants his own family connection to help) as even 40 ¢ per hour and I can get other men to do the work for less; that I will be taking the cheaper men,as I think they can do the work just as well because they have built littles houses for themselves

And every Carpenter charges I think it is 50 ¢ daily for the use of a SAW,and so much for a hammer etc.

Really I get very disgusted at them and their big wage demands, last year the women charged 40 ¢ per hour for cleaning the inside of the Manse,so this spring I did all the cleaning myself,and now I have just finished unpacking the Mission boxes all myself,I had them help some with my groceries last year, and even they demanded pay for that little bit of work-so this time I did it all and left them high and dry.

But is it in accordance with your wishes that I may use some of the things that come up in the Mission boxes in paying the women for such work as cleaning the Manse,and may I use any of these things also to pay for personal work such as the man who brings water for me,and who gets paid by the month. And I tried having boys shovel away the snow from my entrance,a daily task, but I had to get out and help them make a snow shed to keep out some of the storm they could not do it,and I do not plan on having to repeat such maneuvers this winter, so may I pay a man for such work from the things of Mission boxes,I pay$3, a month,which if I must do it means 50 lbs flour each month. I want to do what is right with all parties and would be glad to hear your advice along this line.

The man who will now bring water is at present the most reasonable one in the village;but he too will soon be like the women,who are so bold they come to the Manse and tell me what they want me to tell the folks to send in the Mission boxes for them, but when they have anything they want me to take,they demand certain things as oranges,potatoes,driedfruits etc.

___ in exchange.

Even when I got one man to go up on the house roof to put a rope up so I could put the flag up he hung around for nearly an hour afterwards to get paid,and it was not 10 minutes work,so to get rid of him I put on my Parka and shut my door and went up town.

Hoping to hear from you in regard to the many things in this letter I am

Sincerely yours

Emma M. Stauffer

Emma M Stauffer
Wales AAA

August 17th, 1938

Miss Emma M. Stauffer
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I have your letter of July 8th written after Captain Backland's visit. I am sorry that all the goods that were ordered were not delivered. I am enclosing a copy of the letter which I am writing to Mr. Gould asking him if possible to have the peanuts, paper bags, nails, padlocks, hasps, etc., sent to you by mail.

With reference to the gasolene and kerosene which Captain Backland delivered, I will say that this was due to our error in placing your order. I find that we ordered only six cases of gasolene and three cases of kerosene. Captain Backland delivered five cases of gasolene instead of six, and four cases of kerosene instead of three. If this quantity is not sufficient, I hope you will be able to make arrangements to secure additional gasolene and kerosene from the local trader, which I hereby authorize you to do, sending me the bill for the additional quantity you require. If you cannot obtain what you need through the local trader, please feel free to wire Mr. Gould asking him if possible to find some way of sending it up to you this fall.

We have paid Captain Backland for the building material which he left with you and also for the flour, sugar, etc., which he delivered to you or to the trader to be paid to the Eskimos instead of cash for their labor on the mission house. I am sorry you are having difficulty in arriving at a satisfactory schedule of payment for labor in making the necessary repairs to the mission house. It is very difficult for me at this distance and with so little acquaintance with the local situation to advise you as to the wages per hour or per day which you should pay to the men who do the work. I am quite sure that if I were in your place I would consult the trader in this matter and be guided by his judgment. Indeed if he is willing to undertake the responsibility, I would turn the whole matter over to him and let the Eskimos deal with him, both in the matter of determining the amount they are to receive per day or per hour, and getting their payment from him for their work in the form of sugar, flour, etc., out of the supply which Captain Backland left at Wales for this purpose.

I heartily approve of the repairs to the roof of the church and of the manse. Of course it is too late to get additional material to you for this purpose this year. If you have anything left out of the lumber which Captain Backland left, after making

the repairs to the manse, you can use it for the repairs to the roof of the church and the manse if it is adaptable for that purpose. If not, I will ask you to advise with the trader and ascertain exactly what you will need in the way of roofing materials; then include this in your order for supplies for next year.

I approve also the building of the room on the north side of the manse as indicated in your previous letter; and if there is sufficient lumber left out of the material which Captain Backland delivered, possibly you can build that room this year. If not you will have to order the lumber that you will need for it to be sent up next summer on the "Helmes."

Thank you for your check covering the personal items which were sent to you. The bill for the food supplies for your personal use amounts to $173.73. Beginning with your salary for the month of October, we shall therefore deduct the sum of $14.48 per month which will cover payment of this bill during the budget year from October 1st, 1936 to September 30th, 1937. This is the method we follow in the case of all the missionaries in the far north. We charge the missionary only the cost of the supplies in Seattle. The freight, which exceeds the cost of the supplies themselves, and the insurance are both paid by the Board. We then divide the bill into monthly installments spread over the entire twelve months, deducting the monthly installment from the missionary's salary as indicated above.

I am glad that the other supplies arrived in good condition, that you received the organ, and that you find it so useful.

It is perfectly proper for you to use materials which you receive in mission boxes to pay the women for cleaning the manse and to pay the man who brings the water for you, and also in payment of any other services which it is necessary for you to employ. I think it is much better to pay them in this way than to give them cash provided, of course, you receive enough materials in the mission boxes to enable you to do so.

The incident of the man who performed the small service of putting a rope on your flagpole and who expected pay for it seems to indicate the urgent need of teaching the people that they are expected to perform services of this kind for the church and for the missionary in consideration of the service which they are receiving in the way of spiritual guidance, and also in nursing care, through your efforts. It seems to me that we ought to be able to interpret the Christian religion to them in such terms that they will understand that they are not always to be the recipients, but that they are expected to give of their services since they do not have any money that they can give in payment for all that they are receiving.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS
Enc.

Wales. Alaska.

July 13 1936

Dr J.M.Somerndike.
#156 5thAve.
N.Y.

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

Will you please kindly send me some Commentary on the Sabbath School lessons for the Year of 1936,do this as soon as possible as I need something in this line very much,to get a wider scope on the lesson for these adult young men.

Also wish to say that I think it is absurd nonsense to put heavy roofing paper between the weather boards on this old Manse and the new boards I got from Captain Backland so I am getting some of the regular paper that is used for that purpose from nearby and will save the roofing paper for another purpose. I think Backland must have misunderstood what I wanted the paper for.

I wish you could see how the young man who is the organist at the church is pleased with your nice organ you so kindly sent us. I keep it in the Manse:as the church is very damp: and the men see to getting it over for meetings and back to the Manse. We are very grateful to you for this kindness.

Do you wish me to send you a list of names of the men who will work on the house,and their wages and etc etc. I will be very glad to do it,if you wish,tho I may not be as exact at it as some business man would be,it is not a new thing to me,so will do the best I can at it.

Sincerely yours

Emma M. Stanford

Wales, Alaska.

Aug. 7. 1936

Dr J M Somerndike.
#156__5 th Ave.
New York.
N.Y.

Dear Dr Somerndike;

I wish to thank you for your letters of Aug 10 th and 17th, both of which I shall reply to in this letter.

May I say before going into details too much, that I have my house re_weather boarded, the new room built onto the north side toward the church, and a little storm room with outside door in it built on at the front entrance, and it has all been given two coats of paint, except the part of the coal house that is still a part of the outside of the house. The body of the Manse is white, with window frames, door fromes and the cornish green, the coal house I was not going to paint, as the boards are so full of old nails, and so badly weather beaten that it nearly took up the paint like a sponge, when at the request of several Eskimos for me to please paint it, it looked so badly, then as it was toward the rear of the property, I did paint it green on the very back and the part to the front got two coats of white just the same as the rest of the Manse, and I must say, it does look fine.

I am sorry that Captain backland does not have a Trader in Wales, how easy it would be for me if he did have and I am certainhe could make good money in the trading business here. I took all the goods I got from him into my house and I say it was full to say the least, I still have some as the interior of the new room is not finished, and I expect to likely get this done when I get the Celotex you spoke of for lining the room next spring, when Backland comes again, I will give you the size of room later on at ordering time.

I had to buy three pieces of lumber from the Lumber yard in Nome and had them brot up by the Mailboat as that is the only ship that we can halfway depend on stopping here and even it sometimes passes us by for a month, because it is so stormy no Eskimo will even try to go out to it. So I will enclose the receipted bills for this purchase herein.

I also got Building paper from Nome and used this on the house where some one else had not used roofing paper, before hand. When Backland gave me the Lumber, he said for me to have it piled a certain way outdoors for drying ere fixing the house, but after three weeks of almost continuous raining, I hadthe men take the window outof the end of my kitchen and we brot all the lumber we thot the old house could stand the weight of into my quarters for three weeks to dry, the balance I had them put in the church to dry, which it did not do, as there was no fire, but we used it too when making the new room. Then there was quite a lot of lumber still at the old Mission house, and I hired some men and went with them myself, and brot a large Oomiak load over here, some of which was useful in making the new room, the balance that we brot over I have stored in the Coal_room (which I got by putting the partition in the church) in the church, as I always have a hard time to get wood for the church, when I landed here last Fall the Elder Louis Tungwenuk wanted me to give all the wood at the old Mission house to the Natives, but I did not give any, as there is not much there and what there is, is needed for the church, and when that is done, there is not one Native here, no not even one of the church Elders will do one thing to get wood for the church, or the Manse either. This is the reason I hurried to make the room onto the Manse, because the people are everlastingly at me to allow them to use the wood for fuel and now the Mission has a place to set down an extra box or bucket, and not feel that it will be gone the next minute, the Eskimo even stole the Gov. teachers washtub they had set out to catch rainwater right beside their house.

When I got to work on the house I discovered that in Miss Bannans time as best I can learn,she had had some old boards from the old house put onto this house to try to stop the wind too,hence my using building paper,when my new boards would make three layers of lumber on one side of this house and to be honest with you,just exactly four layers on the south and west sides,so my conscience pricked me when I discovered it,but we already had beguun to put the new boards on,so there was little else to do but finish it,but just why the horribly old and weather beaten boards from the old house were puton here which made this look disgrace ful I do not know,and it was foolishness to try to paint them,so I have it looking batter and much cleaner too.

I also doscovered that this house is up on posts all along the north west and south,and west sides,so I had to get these all built up around with Sods cut and hauledfrom the swamp between here and the mountain. And as the first real storm from the north with a heavy snow whirled around here today I could tell a great difference in the warmth of my house. Of course with the 2X10 inch opening in four of the windows(now I have closed)ie the openings)this alone will keep out much wind.

I will send you amounts of wages etc later on as this is a hurry letter as the mail boat is due just any time on its way south.

Some of the things Mr Gould has sent for me and I trust the remainder will be along by any ship comming this way soon.Will refer to these later in season.

* Also in the center on upper side of house there is one post - that is not sinking into the earth as the other posts are - likely there is frozen earth or a rock under it

Rev Klerekoper and his wife I coaxed(did not have to do much either)them to get off the north bound North Star ship and stay with me until its return, but as the Sea was getting rough and the C G Cutter Northland came along on Sat. on its way to Nome where the North Star was to Sail from to Barrow ~~ff~~ I let the Klerekopers go on it as I was afraid it would be too bad for us to get any one to take them out to ship by the next day,wish they could have stayed here longer. But Rev Klereekoper held Prayer service and Baptized two babies on Thursday evening,and then we held a meeting for the election and ordination etc of Elders on Friday evening,and we intended to hold Communion if he could have been here on Sunday,but I was satisfied that I had let them go on the Northland because by the time the North Star went south from Kotzebu,and was to stop here for them,the Sea was so rough,they could not stop,but thanks to the kindness of Mr E.C.Black the teacher here,I asked him to send word if he could by his Radio Telephone to the N.S.that I had sent my friends to Nome and they could get them there,and much to my surprise he was successful,but thru the Wireless station at Kotzebu only.

So now I have two new Elders which makes three altogether,the one newly elected one is about the only Christian that one could say was a real Christian in the village,his name is Theodore Statuk,he is well up in years and as I think from visible symptoms a victim of Tuberculosis,which is not active now. He it is that brings the water supply for me,I do this to try to help his family have a bit of extra for a living,he always helps to look after the church too. The other new Elder is Dwight Tevuk,a man about 35 or 40 yrs of age who is not such good material,but the best of the younger men in Wales,and I thot best to try to get him started early along this course,as he was an orphan boy and made his home with the Greists when they were here and they surely gave him the right kind of a start,he also looks after the church or Manse or both when I am away.

Louis Tungwenuk is still very good but he is of a different type of person,has many,many very good traits,but he is indeed I am sorry to say very hard to handle and very mean at times,to say the least,he was the bestone at helping me get the work of repairing the house,fixed bell tower roof on church even his brother EdwardNatongok,the Mayor of Wales helped many,many days at my house,but Louis had asked me to get more Elders appointed several times this year and I am fearful that Louis has some thing in his mind that is not for the good of the town and church,as, he has been rather what I call sheepish all summer,but I will lay low so to speak and hope all goes well with us here.

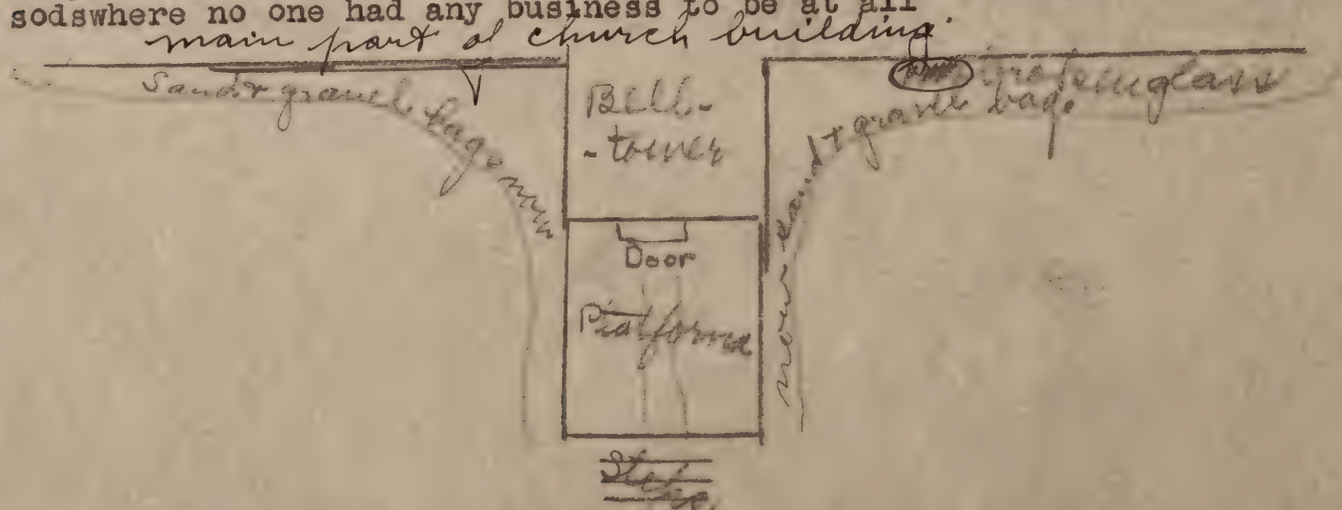
Every Eskimo along this coast knows about Dr Greist - gov. could talk openly against him - so a thing when the Barrow passing stops things will be different here too -

#3

Now as to the letter from the Wales Counsilmen may I say I am not at all surprised because the Mayor is in the first place, tho a brother of the church elder; Louis Tungwenuk, not gifted with ~~any more~~ very much or at least not at times a full quota of useful Grey matter, that is beneficial to any one, when I asked Louis about getting Edward to help with fixing my house, Louis said, oh, yes he might work as some days he was quite alright, well I went to his home, had his wife whospeaks broken english interpret, and Edward came to work, & worked fine for the few days I needed him, but he is the only man in the village of whom I am honestly sfraid, tho I try to never let him see my fear, I think he would kill one as quick as look at you if he was so minded, being a nurse I am not blind to all I see, but I must never make my thoughts known to any one here, or to any one who will even incinuate that I have expressed my thoughts to them. So the other men of the town do not oppose Edward, rather fall in for whatever foolhardy thing he may wish to have done.

But all this Hubbub began because I asked the people to not let their six & ten year old girls and women with babies not a month old be carrying 100 lb sacks of flour and sugar on their backs from the beach up the hill to the store. I would not have asked this only that they could not carry them, rather were falling down under the weight of them, until it was actually worse than in the old slave days in the time of Abraham Lincoln, except that there was no one here to drive the women to it, I only asked them to have some one carry my supplies that were able to do it. I did not even interfere with the women carrying: after the stores cargo was all in hand and the ship gone I asked this of the people, and the councilmen said they would care for it.

And may I say that I did not ever put broken glass at the door or even in the doorway of the church, but I will send this drawing to show just exactly where I did put it, just to try to keep the children from getting into it, because as it was mostly old bottles of acids and poisonous drugs that Dr Greist must have left here and were not fit for any use, and I cant throw such things onto the beach as the children play there by the hours and days, and the swamp back of my house has been aglow all summer with flowers, until I cant throw such things there where the children are too, just as much as any where, indeed between the scores of children and just as many or more ~~DOGS~~* PUPPIES one just needs the patience of Job to live in this town, especially when the adults do actually climb up and sit astride to comb of the schoolhouse roof, they were getting at this on my house lastspring and I just told them plainly they could stay on the ground. The broken glass I put in amongst the old whale bones and sodswhere no one had any business to be at all



And I have now; with the help of a native who also signed that paper you got and sent me, filled in these corners and along this platform with coalbags of gravel from the beach, I tried to get the town council to fix this as I think I wrote you before, as last Fall the foundation was already all gone up to the corners of the platform, steps, the lower one fell off this summer, the natives take the whale bones away for their own use as soon as they get loose and the winds blow away the earth and sand, sothis last week we had to do some

Building of bags of gravel as for a war bombardment, for the bones and stones were gone: up to the very platform and where I had dumped the old glass there was just a few sods and one huge vertebrae of a whale that was too large for the natives to take away easily, so I built my sacks against it and we filled up now so that it will stay for possibly a year or two.

As just what they mean by me neglecting them I cannot make out, as they all prescribe their own treatments, no matter what ails them and no matter if I know what they should have and suggest it, they get very huffy and say they must have what they asked for because Miss Bannan always used that, so long ago I decided if I had what they asked for and knew it would not kill them I just make it a point to give it to them and let them at least think they have what they want.

I think also part of their hubbub is about baby cases, when I camme here, they called me after the baby was born and the old women had it all wrapped up and laid by, but it was plainly seen that I was to do the cleaning up, well as I took the bundle of baby clothes with me from the mission, if the old women usually 4 or more in mnumber were agreed I dressed the baby, but here, they never dress or even allow the baby to have a bath, not even its face washed for a weekuntil the umbilical cord is off, so as I always thot there wereplenty of old women, who the Government nurse had arranged for to do the Midwifery work and were always on hand: to do the cleaning up, I wouldjust make sure that both mother and child were in good condition and let them alone, and come home.

Then some old women wanted me to come and do all of the Delivery as they do ie use the reindeer belt and force the child to be expelled, this I refused to do, I tried to get them to not use this belt at all(Gov.nurse did too -& failed) But I said I will go and help them any time night or day if they sendffor me, but they still wanted me to do it all myself, then I said in case I did do it all myself for several months, their women who were able to understand how to do the work as the Gov. nurse had arranged for them to do, would get out of the way of caring for the woman and baby, then the Mission might transfer me and send some man like Rev Ipalook, then what would they do. So now even the more intelligent ones, still force the birth of the child, and sometimes send for me an hour or two afterward if the mothers condition from the shock of such a crude proceedure goes bad then they rush for me and expect me to do some sort of witchcraft to restore her, by Gods mercy so far no woman has died, but why they dont I do not understand, but I go and do what is possible for any of them anytime

All but two of the signers of that paper have been working for me on the house, and if they were really angry at me, how could they sign that paper and then Interpret for me at church meetings etc and funerals etc. one man still away working at the city.

Do not be surprised at the flare ups of this towns Council men, they have been fighting this whole year with some body, mostly because the first thing last Fall the lumber the Mission had given them to make a store building was being dashed to pieces by every storm, washed on the beach etc etc, and I spoke to elder Louis about it only to learn that the the town Mayor never would let any man work at it so I asked for a meeting of the Councilmen, and to my surprise I got it and I asked for a show of hands as to how many wanted a store building, and all wanted it except the Mayor, so then and there I gave them so long to get the main part of the building up into which the rest of the lumber was to be stored for the winter, the building to be finished early in the spring ready to move the years store supplies into in 1936, and Louis and two other men were appointed the Head carpenters, all went well(I took it upon myself to say the Mission would say that if they did not take care of the lumber and use it for the purpose for which it was given, the mission would take the lumber from them) so thy have the store, but the storekeeper who is a young man too smart for his own good, with a smattering of an education(gives me all sorts of troubles, talks about the church and mission, so independently conceited, imputent and sarcastic) sets in church or Sunday school and just laughs and sneers at all that is done untilI wonder how long God will tolerate such maneuvers, it is he who informed me the Mission should have a paid Interpreter, well he can interpret very well, but if you ever see your way to allow me to have anything for an Interpreter I will certainly take another young man who has never been out to the states, but who is much more Christian than this Robert Mayo(Mayokwok) the Storekeeper.

Robert Mayo-

PS. Even this man has signed the letter you got, but he fights with every one he and the Mayor has what is called a Tongue lashing in their new store over something every week, you see this Cape reindeer Co, is in reality the Wales village store, and as the debt last Fall was $6.000, the Government has sent Mr Black, who is a good business man, up here to try to make the people pay up, so he is succeeding fine, but he has made them bring their furs etc into trade in this store, and the whole town has fought with him, and I think the Councilmen must have petetioned the Government to have him removed as it has me, from what Mrs Black told me, but Mr Black is still here and I think will be at least for next year. This Council body is a bad organization in the hands of such an ignorant race of people, but things will not be better soon as in Nome there is what is called the Alaska Brotherhood ass., which demands just so and so, and th Storekeeper here has been working in Nome for several years and knows all how the natives get whatthey demand there so he is trying to arrange the same things here.

Just after my supplies came in this summer Mr Black had called Councilmeetig a Sunday evening(he never considers Sunday as Gods day) and several times since. Later he handed me a sheet of rules and regulations and set prices for the longshoring of all mission, school and store supplies in Wales, and the man who keeps score is to be paid 50 ¢ per hour, can you imagine this in a far out of civilization place like Wales, but as I understand it the Councilmen were the ones that drove him to have to do something, so he told me, he had to have some set rules about bringing supplies in.

So I do wish Captain would get one of his stores here and there would be no whispering around that it was not lawful for the mission to pay its workers in trade if there was a Trader store here, and I do not think it wise to turn over a supply of goods to this Store at any time for payment of Mission bills, just lately I myself paid another what Mr Black claimed was old mission debt at the store of $5.15, which was over and abowe the $20. I paid last Fall, which they tried to put on mission accounts and mine was to be extra, but I finally after much talking, got them to send the bill to the mission board and I thot all paid up until the other day they confronted me with this old bill. The way they do business here does not suit the person who wants to have anything for himself. Captain would help the missionary here very much, if he could see his wayclear to start a store here.

All the men who signed that letter but one who never comes to church, he is too much Catholic, I have had with their wives and families in my Manse for meals or a meal, and I have given their children crackersor cookies or nuts or candy after every childrens meeting all year(stopped this meeting lately just with a real Party for them because there were scarcely any little folks in the village) and here is where I need the room I built on for these childrens parties, and for the Junior Bible class all winter they came here and spent the evening in class and games, and I tell you they made a mess of my quarters, but I like to have them, as I get lonesome the long winter days all day dark with snow banked so high one cant get out to walk about and then it is most too cold to enjoy even this.

And the most of their homes(Mayor Edward Natonguks is the worst) one can scarcely get into except by stepping over scores of pans of rotten meat and latrine vessels, but I have never said a word because I know they would resent it as they have when I asked them to try to keep their children in the seat in church with them, but instead the little ones have full sway of the church, and I dare not say one word, more than I have said and try to teach them to respect Gods house. But they have always used the church as a play house at Thanksgiving and Christmas, when they have their feasts and games afterward(Dr Greist stopped the game business at Barrow long ere my time) and this town Council just rules and bosses me around as if I had no right to say anything as to when they should have the church, so now I fear what they will be trying since they now have three Elders, and it is no wonder the children have no respect for the church as to them it is nothing but a play house, and the adults are no better than the children.

#6____

Now I fear you will grow to hate to receive letters from me when you get this one after getting that one from the town Council,but if you had been as good to these people: even entertained the twelve Councilmen at one time ere I asked them to fix the church this spring,as I have tried to be,then have them act like they have done to me is just rather hard to take,but for the sake of the good that must be in these ignorant people with your help and backing of your prayers I will stand by them as I want to right here until it is time for my furlough,and I trust ere that time they will be a wiser Council in the knowledge of what is right than they are now.

I have paid them for working on the house and have done the honest thing with them as best I knew how,I kept the time score and was with them practically all the time as Backland said it was best to over see them,as I too learned from some blunders they made when absent for a few minutes,that it was best for me to stay in sight,if I wanted a decent house when done.

Now I will close and hope this reaches you before the next issue of whenever the council wishes to send another letter. Llouis says as soon as enough men get home they will have a council meeting and settle this,as the Mayor in not at home now. So I think it was a Gods blessing for Wales in that you are not transferring Miss Bannan back here,this they will know only when the Mayor gets home and reads your letter,he happened in just as I was reading your letter,and saw I was vexed and I had to tell him a little.

Thanking you for your help in all things I am

Obediently yours

Emma M. Stauffer

August 10th, 1936

Miss Emma M. Stauffer
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I have your letter of July 13th. I am sending you a copy of "Peloubet's Notes on the Sunday School Lessons for 1936.

I think that you should take Captain Backland's advice with reference to insulating the walls of the manse with roofing paper. Captain Backland has had a great deal of experience in erecting buildings in the arctic regions and he knows the conditions so thoroughly that I would be inclined to follow his advice. Probably the reasons he suggested roofing paper are because it is much heavier and better adapted to resisting the cold winds. Probably the dampness would not be so likely to affect it and disintegrate it so quickly as the lighter paper that you have in mind.

With reference to the labor in repairing the building, you should deal with Captain Backland's trader who has been supplied with foodstuffs for which I have paid Captain Backland and which will be given to the people on presentation of their vouchers for wages, instead of giving them cash.

I was very much disturbed to receive the enclosed letter this morning signed by the Wales Village Councilmen. Having received letters of this kind before from natives in Alaska and also from Indians in the States finding fault with the missionary, I am not inclined to take the complaint too seriously, but I feel that it is only just to you that you should be informed with reference to it. You must not chastise the people who signed this letter for having sent a complaint to me. Please take into consideration their backwardness and ignorance and their childishness, all of which prompts them to do just this sort of thing. You must be very patient with them and guide them tenderly and considerately, realizing that they act impulsively, and as all ignorant people do on the basis of prejudices which arise from the vividness of their imagination. You must not be too severe with their faults.

Of course I do not want you to condone the things that they do which are contrary to Christian teaching and principles,

but you must treat them much as you would treat a child who does many things not with the deliberate intention of doing wrong, but because there is nothing in his background which has taught him the better way.

I cannot believe that it is true that you put sharp edges of broken glass outside the doorway of the church building.

I am sending a reply to the Mayor, a copy of which I am enclosing, which I trust will pave the way for a kindly and helpful conference between you and him, which will result in gaining their confidence and cooperation. Without their confidence and their cooperation it is impossible for you to do any effective work among them. The missionary must be winsome and must strive in every possible way to win the affection of the people in order to help them to see and know Jesus Christ, for after all we exemplify in our own lives His tenderness, His patience, His kindness, and His forgiveness.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS
Enc. 2

August 25th, 1936

Miss Emma M. Stauffer
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I enclose a letter from the Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Indian Affairs in reply to my letter asking whether it would be possible to clothe you with the authority of the United States Commissioner at Wales.

I suggest that you take up the matter with the judge of the territorial court in the judicial district within which Wales is situated. This seems to me to be the most direct course for you to pursue in the hope of securing early action.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS

PUBLICITY

Wales, Alaska September, 1936

Excerpts from letter received October 16, (dated September 21st) from Miss Emma M. Stauffer:

"We had the worst kind of a blizzard-like snowstorm the other day that spoiled the lovely green mountain slope, with its lovely wild flowers, froze the grass in the swamp and now our landscape has a most cold, desolate appearance, and the wind is so cold the ground is frosted every night, ice over the little stream from Snake river. In short, winter is just around the corner even I have had to get into my woolens again!!

"Am having an interesting time this week, on last Friday some Eskimo women walked over the mountain from Tincity and one very foolishly brought her little 6 yr. old boy who had to travel too fast and was too sick to make the trip back the same day, so I have him staying with me, and to my surprise he has not even cried for his mother. He was sick all day on Saturday, but since then he is allright. Last night I had to go out into the village to see some sick folks and he trudged along and carried the medicine kit. He talks very little English, but he has a smile that is worth a million dollars to him, and he don't know it. He is so ragged, how I wish I had something in the line of trousers or even overalls for him, but there is nothing of the sort here, so I will just have to tolerate him as he is. Just now the mail boat has anchored in sight and the boy is out to take notice of whatever is to be seen, but the first chance that comes I will send him by some natives' boat around the mountain to Tincity where his family are camping and working for the summer."

Excerpt from letter received October 16, (dated September 23rd) from Miss Emma M. Stauffer:

"Once more I am the only white person in the village as the school teachers got a transfer by some method as they never did like Wales . I am not surprised. But new teachers from the States willbe along about the middle of October so I hope all keeps civil until I get company, as one just feels a little lonesome when alone in these very isolated places with no one of your own TRIBE in even calling distance for weeks and weeks at a time."

Wales. Alaska.

Sept.17.1936

Dr.J.H.Somerndike.
#156_5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

I thot it best to write you a few lines to say that the Mail_boat on its way south from Kotzebu,on the 10th of Sept. brot me the two boxes that I have been looking for all summer,as Capt. Backland said that I might eventually get them,so it mustbe that he left them in Kotzebu with the Furgeson Lighterage Co.to be given to the Captain of the mailboat,which goes to Kotzebu and stop here(if weather and this boisterous sea permits)both onits way north and south every two weeks all summer.

One was the box containing the peanuts bags etc,and the other was the box sent from the Seattle Presbyterial Society.

But now that you have so kindly sent another order of peanuts etc on the boat that is to arrive in Nome today,when that gets here, I will have an order to fall back on,in case mine again does not get put off here by Captain Backland.

I also wish to say that the sugar flour etc I got from Backland to pay the workmen is in A #1 condition,so that if I am living and still in Wales,as I hope to be next year,he may ~~still~~ have the pleasure of bringing my order of these things up for me.

The Mayor of the town has been home several days,I have met and greeted him on the pathways of the townhis wife also,and he never refers to your letter and I doubt if he ever will,and I think it best that I do not pinch an already sore finger.

Really I think God himself will take care of the situation: because the storekeeper is having all sorts of trouble with his eyes,I told him some time ago he should get glasses,and he replied he would not,he did not see that he needed them,so now he is just suffering all sorts of punishment, I have been caring for him all that can be done for him,today he is better and has agreed to go to Nome to an Optitian and get glasses.

Then to make matters worse for the town,Mr. Black the teacher & his wife schemed things around so that they are leaving in a day or two,she is in Kotzebu now; pretended she was seriously ill(has all winter,but she has not bluffed me) sent me two sheets of printed orders for me to get things here and there over the Teacherage and pack in her trunks for her,well I have done it,but she was not sick when she left nor never had been here.

I am sorry to see them leave,because he has done much good for the town,and I feel that as soon as he gets away and a new outside teacher comes in(who will be timid to stand for what should be done) he will not do anything but set down and fall into the lacadasical native way of

___ letting the few selfish ones of this Town council rule and reign, and the rest of the town will have to suffer the consequences,and this may mean that the stockholders of the Reindeer Co may force ownership of the store which they tried to do with Mr Black,but he made them act according to the agreement on their stockholer certificates of reindeer herd, which are only transferrable to another native,so on this matter they are most touchy and only two men of the twelve Councilmen are smart enough to understand what their reindeer herd stockholder certificates mean in this line.

I have not yet written the judge at Nome about making me the Commissioner here I will wait a bit and see what sort of a man comes here to be teacher,if one would come who will take an interest in Sunday school and church work I think the natives may not be so hard to handle.

Do you think it wise for me to write to the judge to endeavor to get appointed the Gov. Commissioner here,if I do:it will come out that I got it done myself(people in Alaska lack discretion as to keeping such things)but if it came from the Mission thru the Territorial judge at Nome whose name is J.H.S.Morrison. Territorial Judge,Nome Ala. by appointment direct to me,then I think it would set alright with this body of men called the Councilmen.

Do you realize that if you get me appointed Gov. Commissioner that it makes me elligble to perform marriages,and do many things that will make the natives know:there is some authority of the government power in my hands even tho I am just a missionary nurse.

The only reason they petetioned you to get me out of here is that I am not as some former nurses they have had here,just willing to do everything they want me to do,and set in the mission house and hand out everything to them that they see fit to ask me for,they make it hard for anyone who tries to lift them out of the old rut and teach them anything that Miss Bannan did not do. I do wish Backland would come in here and make a store and give these people to understand there are other people in the world besides these at Wales. If he would send a good christian man here,it would be a help to ~~me~~ me and the teacher as well.

One Councilman came to me to know if he might have lumber to make a dog barn in connection with the store,I told him the store and quarters for the storekeeper were not yet complete,these were to be finished first,as the mission gave the lumber to make a store and not dog barns. But after the store building and all are finished I beleive it would be best for me to let them use what is left to make a small house for the ,whoever the storekeeper might be dogs,and have that much more good out of the lumber. But they are peeved at me for even this,but while I am here I will do what seems best.

I would like to know what about this Mission Dogbarn,does the Mission own this old hut that some natives say Dr Greist bot for the mission from native and which is mission property,but when not in use by the mission Dr Greist designated it was to be used for any travelers dogs,and it has been too,and at that without my consent in any way,and it will be a bone of contention now all the more because it is right near the new store building,in fact now without my sonsent the store keeper has packed all the reindeer camping out fit into it,

Personnally I would like to let the store have the disruptable hut,and if the mission sends a man here that for any reason he should need dogs then a new barn would have to be built on some other lacation,but when I suggested this,Elder Louis at once informed me this could not be.but it would be a good thing for Elder Louis to know that he has no authority over Mission property,except to see that it is not molested,certainly it is news to me that any church Elder has the authority to tell any missionary what he or she may do with anything that belongs to the mission,but I said nothing on this matter further to Louis until I hear from you.

No Minister you might locate here would need dogs as the village south of us,Teller is in charge of the Lutheran Mission,and north of us nearest is Ikpick,35 miles in charge of the Lutheran mission of Shishmaref 80 miles from Wales And the tin mines at Tincity 6 miles south of here are abandoned except for one watchman for property,all winter long,Wales families go there in summer,I walked

#3 over the mountain and back in less than a day this summer. But the mines will soon close down and then all the men with their families will return to Wales for the winter and spring hunting.
Just now a knock at my door: and who is it but the Eskimo from Teller who is the winter mail_ man he has come to show me the blue_print of the new dog_ barn he is to build for his dogs,to use when he comes in winter, so now that releases his claim on the use of this old hut,called the mission dog- barn that he has always used before.

Just got my radio installed this week and like it very much,it will be a comfort these long dark days that are soon to be here,and I think the natives may enjoy it too,especially the musical programmes,as when there is clear weather radio service is good,even last night I heard the speakers at an Exhibition at Johannasberg Africa,very plainly.

Mr Blacks leaving,the radio telephone is their own personal property,so as it is not likely that the new teachers who are comming from Arkansaw,(I am told)will be bringing such an expensive luxury with them,I will not be able to send telegrams from Wales for some time.

Awaiting your reply and advice on the queries of this letter

I am

Sincerely yours
Emma M. Stanford.

Oct.
5th
1936

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

Since writing you, informing you of the cost of the food supplies which we shipped to you this year, we have received another bill from Captain Backland for some groceries which were overlooked in the original bill. The monthly deduction from your salary, therefore, will be $16.45 instead of $14.48 as I wrote you on August 17th.

I am enclosing a check herewith for $23.42 to reimburse you for the bills which you enclosed with your letter of August 7th, for materials which you purchased for the repairs to the manse.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Oct.
13th
1936

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I am very glad to learn from your letter of September 17th that you received the boxes which Captain Backland forgot to leave with you and which he promised to send by the mail boat from Kotzebue. You now have an extra supply of peanuts apparently, but I suppose you can make good use of them.

Do not give yourself any further concern with reference to the letter that was written to me by some of the people of Wales, criticizing your actions. In accordance with my usual policy I felt that I ought to let you know about it, but I want to assure you that I had no misgivings concerning the motives which governed your actions nor was I convinced that you had done anything that was unwise or indiscrete just because I received that letter. I have become so accustomed to receiving letters from Indians in the States as well as from natives in Alaska, criticizing the missionaries and making charges which in most cases are untrue, that I do not regard them very seriously although I always let the missionary know that I received such a letter in each case. I think that is the fairest and wisest course to pursue, although I do not expect the missionary to retaliate in any way or even to let the people know that the headquarters office has relayed the communication to him (or her). It simply puts the missionary on guard and gives him (or her) an opportunity to check on the course which he (or she) is pursuing.

I will write to Judge Morrison at Nome, asking him about appointing you as U.S. Commissioner, and I will ask him to correspond directly with you with reference to the matter.

Regarding the use of whatever lumber is left from the old building after completing the store and the quarters for the storekeeper, I leave it entirely to your discretion whether to donate this lumber for the building of a dog barn. I find that our property records concerning Wales are very meagre and I wonder if you would send me a sketch or a photograph showing our buildings at Wales, and state whether we hold title to the land on which the buildings are erected.

When I was in Fairbanks I asked Mr. Youel, pastor of the church at Fairbanks and Chairman of the National Missions Committee of Yukon Presbytery, to inquire of the airlines of any contemplated trips from Fairbanks to Wales, so that he could make one trip a year to your station. This will keep you in closer touch with the general work of the Church and of the Presbytery, and will give Mr. Youel an opportunity to baptize babies, administer the Communion, perform marriage ceremonies, etc.

I hope that the new teacher who comes in place of Mr. Black will prove to be sympathetic toward your work and will cooperate with you in your local program.

I am glad that you have succeeded in fixing up the house to make it warmer and more resistant to the cold winds. It is gratifying also to learn that you have worked out your problem of coal storage and wood storage so that you have them protected against theft and I hope also against freezing, at the same time making it more convenient for you to get the coal from the storage room into the house.

I hope that the addition of the building paper and the new lumber on the outside of the house will give it an insulation that will make it very much more comfortable for you through the severe winter weather.

I am glad that you have two new elders, and I hope that they will prove to be a source of strength to the work. I advise you to use these elders as much as possible as missionaries in the community, assigning them tasks to do and dignifying and magnifying the importance of their position. You ought to take them with you as much as possible especially in the visitation of the sick as well as of the well people also. The people will have more respect for the church and for the eldership; and at the same time the consciousness of the importance of the position will help to keep these elders from lapsing into native pagan ways.

I can imagine what joy you experienced because of the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Klerekoper. They are a fine couple, and they will do good work at Barrow.

I am wondering what you feel you ought to have in the way of compensation for an interpreter. If you really feel that it would help you to have an interpreter for your services, I will be glad to provide one dollar per week and will make this money available for you. I will not do so, however, until I hear from you stating that you need an interpreter for your services. Of course we could not employ an interpreter to give his entire time to accompany you in your visits among the people. I presume, however, that the children in the homes understand sufficient English to interpret for you when you visit the families. If this appropriation will enable you to hire someone who is satisfactory to you instead of using Robert Mayo, I will be very glad to make the money available for you.

Please feel free to write to Captain Backland suggesting that he establish a store at Wales. I am sure that he would be glad to consider the matter if he felt that it could profitably be done.

You will have to be very patient about the actions of the people during church services. I think it would be a good idea to talk to your elders about this and impress upon them the importance of absolute quietness during the church services, both on the part of parents and children, and ask them to cooperate with you in getting the parents to keep their children quiet while the services are going on. The elders can do more in bringing about an improvement in this situation than you can do yourself. Do not be too much disturbed also over the feeling of the town council that they can direct you with reference to certain things. It is just a childish demonstration of a power which they think they possess as a council, and if you have a sense of humor you can afford to take it in a serious way but act as you think best about the trifling things that they want you to do. Of course you will have to be tactful, patient, and kind, as well as very wise in dealing with these people who are just like children and who need the constant encouragement which you can give them in order to fan into a flame the slightest spark of spiritual discernment and Christian understanding.

There is not the slightest prospect that Miss Bannan will be re-

turned to Wales, so you need not be disturbed by any talk among the natives about the possibility of such an action by our Board.

Assuring you of our prayers and with every good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

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Wales, Alaska
Dec.31, 1937

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

Well, here it is the last day of the old year, and what a beautiful day we are enjoying - no wind, not enough snow to cover even the ground and only some spots of ice in our Bay, around which the little folks skate and play, while in other places right in our Bay is yet open water. But there is a high ridge of huge icebergs all along the horizon where the rough waters of Behring Strait keeps pushing them higher and higher until they look like young mountains. When we hear the ice being piled up a mile to Sea, we say it sounds like an oncoming freight train away back in U.S.A. The sun is somewhere near the horizon causing a lovely red glow over everything at 1 o'clock P.M., and it will likely show up a bit later in the day for a short time only. I will be so pleased when this dark season gets done.

Christmas is over, and we did all seem to have such a nice time. The Eskimos had a good day for their outdoor sports, which is very unusual; and what pleasure we all had when it came to giving prizes to the worthy participants of the sports, which was done after the Christmas feast in the church on Christmas day. We held special services at 11 o'clock A.M. and our feast at 4 P. M.

I acted on Rev. Youel's advice and took out part of the platform in the church and thus was able to decorate the pulpit for the holiday festivities - something that could never be done before because of the immense size of the platform. And the big red letters of MERRY CHRISTMAS on their old bed-sheets for a white background are still up on the wall back of the pulpit, and will be until after New Year's; then I will take it and put it away hoping I may be permitted to be here to use it next year, if this be God's will.

The government teachers and myself together got up a program which seemed to be pleasing to all, and the performance was crowned out by the appearance of Santa Claus who helped to give out the gifts, and I surely hope that we can always have as docile a Santa as we had this year.

There are many sections to your letter this time, and I will ask you to forward everything necessary concerning supplies for this year on to Mr. Gould, just because (and I should keep this secret-) I usually send him a copy of my order but am not doing so this year for a few days ago - last Monday evening - I fell on the slipperty snowdrift and am enjoying the company of a badly wrenched spine these days, but I hope lone ere you can get this, to be out and about as usual; but I simply can't sit up long to do much typing these days. I have one of Elder Louis' girls with me during the day to get me things that I cannot reach.

I will enclose a drawing of the roof of the church with the dimensions marked on it; and will you please kindly get some man who knows the business to cipher out how many bundles or bales of shingles will be necessary to cover it and the bell vestibule complete? And along the places where it, the roof at the roof ridges, corners and gable, there must be pine lumber each strip 5 inches wide. As there is no use to put tin on it because the wind here would rip it off as it did the stovepipe and take it likely to Point Barrow or the North Pole so fast no one could see it go.

Sincerely yours,

EMMA M. STAUFFER

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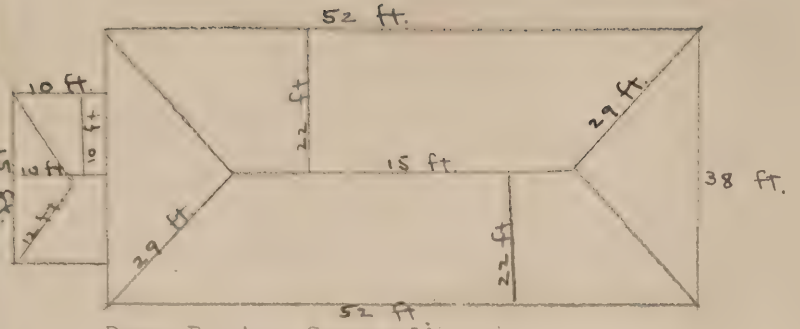

Wales, Alaska,
Dec. 31, 1937.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

You may wonder the why of the above drawing, so may I explain that it is for you men to have the correct figures of the dimension of the roof of the church and bell vestibule; as looking at them from the sky, so you can get a proper man to do the ciphering as to how many bales of shingles are needed to put a new roof on them both. And also how many rolls of building paper are needed to put on the sheeting under the shingles, as this is the way the people do now here when putting on a new shingle roof.

So all this is to help you men to know how many bales of shingles and how many rolls of building paper, and how much pine lumber to send to finish it up along the 29 foot ends and all other such ridges, as there is no use to put tin on any roof here. The roof has been patched and patched until it don't look so badly but it leaks badly and if I don't get it roofed in 1938 and if I live to go out in 1939, I could not get it done that year; and by that time the way it leaks now both roof sheeting and the church floor would be destroyed before I could get it done in 1940 or '41.

But I will leave it up to you to decide, but I do think we should put the new shingles on this year; and if I do go out next spring, by the time I can get back the rainy weather will in all probability make it so that I could not do the roofing, but I could do the painting of the interior even if it did rain all the time.

What manner would you suggest as to ways of contract to get the roof on? The most energetic person in town is our church elder, Louis Tungwenuk, who has now been put in as store manager and seems to be making a success at it; but though he is always busy at something for himself or some person, yet when I go after him to get some work started he comes. And he is a good worker, which can't be said of the majority of Walesites. Others will work with him when he is right with them, but when he is out of sight or has to go to the store for some customer, the other men will simply sit down and smoke cigarettes and chat. So paying anyone but Elder Louis by the hour is simply eating up cash and getting nothing done. I have been driven most to distraction by the shiftlessness and unconcernedness as to ways the most of these men can <u>kill</u> time when I am paying them by the hour.

Would you think best for me to make a contract with Louis to have it roofed complete for a certain sum? If so, what price would you think right? Or could a shingle layer and nail driver at home give you any idea what it should cost to have it roofed and roof-strips on and all complete? When Louis does work for me, I pay him 40¢ per hour. Of course he has never demanded it, but I pay him because he is the only one in town that I can depend on to get anything really done; and if anyone can get other men to work, he seems to be the one to get them. Generally speaking, these people are like a flock of sheep. If they like the one that is at their LEAD, they will follow; and childlike if they don't like their head one, they are all awry and their life shows it too - poor, childlike adults they be and hard to handle. I do not think we would have such difficulties, except that at Tin City, ordinary pick-and-shovel men get exactly 70¢ per hour and do very

little work at that.

Please let me hear from you on this question, because when men want paid wages, it is a mistake to feed them - hence I do not do the latter.

Now I will close and let you have a rest from hearing from me for a little while at least.

Sincerely yours,

EMMA M. STAUFFER

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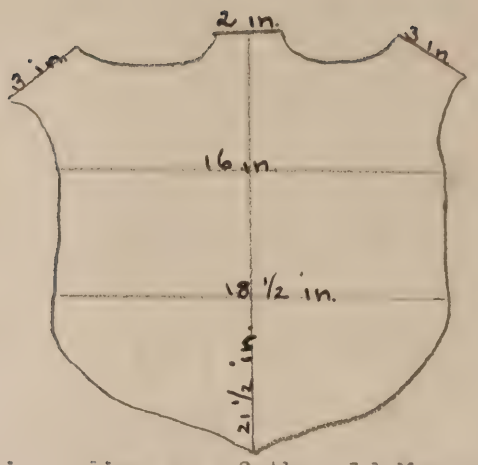


Wales, Alaska
1937

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

The above is a diagram of the old Memorial Tablet in the church here. Am sending this to give you the size and shape as we want a new Tablet as near the shape of this one as you can get it, so we can put them into the church auditorium, side by side on the wall.

We, the Elders and I, talked this over with Rev. Youel and we decided it best to have this Tablet, so we do not have the exact date as to when our mission took things over here, so we are asking you who have this information to word this according as to when we took up the work here and from whom, giving the year.

This old Tablet is made of wood, practically an inch thick, and seems to be all in one piece, is stained and varnished, being finished as in appearance as light oak; is very neat and nice. The wording is done in black lettering and this is what is on it:

CONGREGATIONAL MISSION CAPE PRINCE OF WALES, ALASKA
ESTABLISHED july 4 1890 BY DR. SHELDON JACKSON
THROUGH THE LIBERALITY OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF SOUTHPORT, CONN.

Then in rather larger print are the names of the teachers at the bottom: H. R. Thornton and W. T. Lopp.

I do hope you will manage to get this new Tablet for me this year so I can get it placed while the Eskimo are so interested in it. And ere it is shipped you will need to have it safely packed against rough handling and the possibility of getting and remaining wet, which would ruin the varnish on it.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Sincerely yours,

EMMA M. STAUFFER

P. S. Please get into the wording of writing on the new Tablet, the National Missions Board, etc.

GROCERIES - Miss E. M. Stauffer, Wales, Alaska (Personal)

1 doz.	#2½	H. H. Corn-on-cob
2 "	2	H. H. Hominy
1 case	1	H. H. Tomatoes
1 doz.	8 oz.	H. H. Spinach
2 "	10 "	H. H. Peas (size 4)
1 "	#2	H. H. Potatoes - whole, new
½ "	2	H. H. Sweet Potatoes
2 "	1	H. H. String Beans
3 "	1 lb.	H. H. Pork & Beans
4 "	#1 tall	Oysters, Willapoint
1 "	½s flat	Salmon, Icy Point
1 case	#1	Campbell's Beef-Vegetable Soup
2 doz.	#1	" Tomato Soup
1 only	32 oz.	Mincemeat
1 case	#1	Beef, Derby
2 "	4 lb.	Morrel's Half Hams
3 doz.	#1	Rath's Pork Sausages
1 only	6 lb. tin	Bacon, sliced
2 cases		Chicken, whole
2 "		" half
2 only	9 lb.	Hormel's Ham
25 lb.		Breakfast Sausages, in brine
25 "		Lard, pure hog's lard - please do not substitute if possible
50 "		Butter, in brine, Darigold
1 case		Eggs, processed
2 doz.	1½ oz.	Cheese, American Kraft
½ case	9½ "	Orange Juice, pure
1 "	#1	Peaches, y. c. sliced
6 "	tall	Carnation Evaporated Milk
1 "	6 5-lb. tins	Gold Shield Coffee
1 doz.	#2	Cherries, r. s. class A
2 "	#1	Pears
3 "	#2	Blackberries
2 "	#1 tall	Apricots
1 "	#2	Applesauce
2 "	#2	Snookums Applebutter
2 "	#2	Strawberries
½ "	6 oz.	Mustard Sweet Pickle
½ "	6 oz.	Relish
2 only	qt.	Sweet Mixed Pickle
3 "	#2½	Molasses, Aunt Dinah, very dark, cooking
1 "	8 oz.	Certo
3 "	1 lb. tins	Tea, black, orange pekoe
1 box	25 lbs.	Cabin Pilot bread
1 "	18 "	Soda Crackers, PLAIN
1 "	18 pkts.	Magic Yeast
1 bbl.	200 lbs.	Pillsbury Flour, best, white
1 "	" "	Hammond's Flour, best, white
1 sack	100 "	Sugar, granulated, white, berry
1 "	75 "	" " " "
1 pkt.	5 "	" brown, for baking
1 pkt.	2 "	" powdered

groceries - 2 - Miss Stauffer - Personal
etc.

1 pkt.	2 lbs.	Sugar, powdered
1 bale	50 "	Peanuts (roasted in their shells)
25 lbs.	10 oz. tins	Jolly Time Popcorn
5 "		Nuts, mixed
1 pail	30 lbs.	Candy, in sticks
6 each	3½ oz.	Jell-well - lemon, orange, cherry, strawberry, lime & wildcherry
3 doz. pairs		Boys' Canvass Gloves #6
6 " "		Men's " " #809
2		A 600 - Radio A Battery
6		486 " B "
2		768 " C "

½ case	Oranges
½ "	Apples
1 crate	Potatoes, white, Irish
3 doz.	Lemons
15 lbs.	Onions, red, Australian
10 "	Sweet Potatoes (New Jersey's)

HARDWARE, ETC. - Wales, Alaska - (Mission)

1 only	6 in.	#1 Stove Pipe Cap
2 "	6 "	#1612 Nesco Stovepipe Cylinder (galvanized)
2 "	1 qt.	#4601 Combination Measure
1 "	7 lb. cap.	#7756 Comet Oval Roaster, 22 ga.
4 "		#317 Coal Hods, 26 gauge 4x steel
12 "	3¼ oz.	#2828N Jelly Moulds, assorted patterns, please
1 "	#9 - 15 gal. cap.	#449 Copper Wash Boiler
2 "		#61 Basting Spoon
2 "		#2L La Bastie, lamp chimney (for #2 burners)
6 "		Fly Swatters, heavy wire
6 "		Tablespoons, not tin & not silver, for kitchen use
6 "		Teaspoons " " " " " " " "
15 lbs.		Putty for windows
2 doz.		#41 Coleman Lamp Mantles
3 doz.	R55	Coleman Automatic Cleaner Lamp Generators
1 "		Flashlight Batteries, Eveready
½ "		" Bulbs
1 "	11½ x 17"	Window Panes
½ "	11 3/4 x 28"	" "
1 "	11¾ x 13¾"	" "
2 cases		Kerosene Oil
6 "		Shell Aviation Gasoline
10 tons		Coal

Building Paper for church roof under shingles, as much as the carpenter says is needed.
Shingles for roofing church, as much as carpenter says is needed.

150 lbs.	#4	Galvanized Nails for putting shingles on roof. (ordinary shingle nails are too short - the wind takes shingles off a yard square in five minutes)
1		Artificial Christmas Tree (about 8 ft. tall in its own base on flat wood, all portable)
1		Santa Claus Suit - cap, mask, long pants - complete for a large person.

For a stove made by Dudley of Nashville, said stove is #300 and is named "Frances Washington":-

1 piece of grate (shaker style) #F W 300 5
1 " " " " " #F W 200 6
1 pint Stove Polish (any kind)

2	Window Sash - for upper sash in window 2 ft. 11 in. high, 2 ft. 9½ in. wide
2	" " - for lower sash of same window

(Each sash should have six panes in it and there should be a good 2 or 3 inch margin of wood around the outer portion of sash, to make them stronger. Not so much difference about this wide margin where the sash meet as they do in the center of the window, so one will slide up and the other down. It seems to me that it would be wise to leave extra inch or two on all outsides of these and we can plane if off to fit the window-frames. But please if you can understand what is wanted, put small panes of glass in

each sash and send a complete extra set of the same size panes packed separately, that I will have some on hand, as these sash are for the church-bell vestibule and glasses are easily broken. Now the Eskimo men said measure the sash and not bother giving you the size of the window in which we want to put the sash; but please if you know I have not given you what you need to know, then say so and I will try to do better next year and will fill in the holes in these somehow to keep out the snow this winter and wait to hear from you.

Wales.Alaska.

Jan,3rd 1938

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#156 5th Ave.
New York.
N.Y.

Dear Dr.Somerndike;

Several Eskimo have been asking for new Hymn Book since Christmas and my Elders think it best that I ask you to send to me 50 of the same kind that we now have ;which is : Vesper Chimes;In stiff paper binding; and the 1934 edition,Westminster Press, Philadelphia.

As Percy Ipalok had gotten these we have been using before I came I do not know what arrangement of financing you had made with him for them. But he had began selling them to the Eskimo here at 50¢ each,and from the proceeds of the sales,he had ordered four new lamps for the church,so I continued what he began,and succeeded in getting our lamps paid for,and had a bit over to buy some matches,and wood alcohol,also for our use. I hope such action on my part is acceptable to you,as it does seem these people might do at least a little for the church,although some of them felt the price a bit high,so I am asking for a cheaper book, in the paper (stiff) binding this time,hoping to please all.

And Iwould be very pleased if you would allow me to have some thing in regular form of a service for funerals. Does the Presbyterians not have some in a small book form along this line that you could get for me,that has a service suitable for any age person;and also some suitable words for to say at the grave. I shall be glad to purchase the book if you will allow me to have one. We get along somehow always,but it would be much easier for me if it is permissable,for me to have the little book with all Biblical quotations for such special service in ready form,in it.

The regular mail came on Jan Ist.but the teachers wife was just here saying a Plane will be along any day bringing a Government Reindeer man,and that we can send mail then if we want to,so I am trying to get a few ready. There is not snow enough yet to cover the ground,so our mail has came by Plane every time since the boats stopped comming,and we really do not enjoy this one bit,as we all liked to see the mail man and his pretty team of dogs ,and besides they did not go so swiftly that we hardly seen them till they were gone again.

I hope to get an account of our Christmas activities written out and sent to Miss Vint in this mail too so possibly you can get a chance to read it sometime.

Hoping I may have suceeded in getting my orderof supplies written out properly this year,and thanking you for the Christmas greeting card received I remain

Sincerely yours Emma M. Stauffer

Wales, Alaska.
Jan. 5, 1938.

Dear Miss Vint:

I presume you have wondered many times what has kept you from hearing from me, but somehow it seems I am sort of busy all the time at other things than writing letters, and I did not have any typewriter for so long this Fall that most of my correspondence is still waiting but now Christmas being past am getting down to secreterial work.

I have received your blanks and am returning them, asking for very little because I do not have Orphans to look after and what I need most of all is second hand clothing of any kind, and odd pieces of prints or ginghams or outing flannel, or old wool dresses or coats or old sweaters. From the aforesaid odds and scraps I can, for my own pleasure make up pants for boys, dresses etc., etc., and use in pay to the Lad who is Chore boy during the year, and the second hand clothing is usually things that folks in the states are glad to get rid of, and is quite good enough to give to these people who will not do one thing for me or the Mission without being paid for it, or fed and paid too. Even second hand underwear, of which there were several suits came in this year for men and boys of the teen age. I gave out at Christmas, but they were gratefully accepted, one Eskimo actually came and thanked me for his old underwear, but this man is of the better type than most of my people. The main thing here is: I must manage some way to have a something that can be as a gift to give to each individual at Christmas whether it is needles, thread, soap, towel, scarf, toy, pants, book, dress, or etc. etc., anything your donators may send me I will make use of in some way. Women like stockings, even if they are darned in many colors.

But I simply will not ask your women to sit and sew to make brand new things for people who will actually charge me $4.00 for one pair of the native boots, and then are not satisfied. I will send you one baby dress that is the right size for infants, which when you are asking for baby clothes for Wales, maybe you could give this to the Secretary of that sewing circle to please kindly go by. Because I have received so many baby dresses that are actually so large that when a new baby comes and I have given the Layette, the next day as I visit the home, the child of 2 years next to the infant is wearing the clothes given for the baby, and any color of baby dresses or diapers in outing flannel, of fast colors (one batch came in last year that were a mess, being blue and green striped and when the baby wet on the diapers, the colors came out on everything, oh such a mess) so fast colors please, or else plain white as the sample I send you. And I am always needing some baby clothes; and blankets; or home made ones. There is no need for people to send baby bands; these women simply will not use them on their babies, and small outing flannel shirts are better to use as shirts as most of bought ones are too large for the infants.

I received from Seattle Presbyterial Society in 1937 3 large boxes, which had so much second hand clothing, toys and oh just so many things you have no idea how much these things helped me out at Xmas because in them was such a variety of things, and the red, and green and other colors of paper string for tying gifts,

along with second hand tissue paper helped me to make a package of some kind for a gift for every person of the Eskimo, in Wales this Christmas and for the first time, now I have seen the advantage of having something for each person, and this is because the women of the many churches and societies you have appealed to; have so kindly responded to your call and may you thank them again for me, even tho I have written to every one from whom a parcel came, and to many I have sent and will be again sending snapshots of things and people here for them to see and send back, then I send them on to others. From some I have yet letters stating that a package is coming, but as they mailed them in September (this is too late, August 15th, should be the limit for sending to me by mail) and as soon as the package has come I shall write them also.

boxes and parcels received in 1937 is 40 and a few to come yet.

Many of these packages came from seemingly individuals, and brought me all sorts of things, which are very, very useful and very nice and for me to say Thank You does not at all begin to express my appreciation of all these dear womens kindness in helping so much with the mission work here, and I do beg you to in all your correspondence with any of them to send my grateful thanks to them, surely God will reward them in some way for their generosity and loving kindness to a race of people they have never seen.

Now as to The Gift Shop. Several weeks ago I received a letter from the Lady who expected to have charge of the shop this Holiday season, asking for so many things; i.e. a certain amount of $ worth of Ivory, but as the letter came too late for me to even send a parcel out, I did not answer it, because on my own I had, had my friend send to you a package of ivory that I thought would reach you in time for the opening of your Gift Shop, but did it?

Now it is thus, whatever I send to you must be sent from here before Sept. 15th, so if you want anything from me for next year please send me word not later than, to reach me by April 1st 1938, because about that time, often Natives from Siberia and Diamede Island come here to trade their ivory for food stuffs and for you to make anything more than expenses on it, I must be on the alert to pick up not too expensive articles for you, and if you could give me an idea as to whether small things sell better than large ones, this would help me to aim to get suitable saleable articles for you. And will you want any slippers this year, and do childrens or adult size sell best? Are the set of a bracelet and string of beads to match too expensive and hard to sell?

Now my Christmas activities: The Town Council's Entertainment Committee arranged the out door sports of different races, and contests in which all who wished to participate was allowed to do so; hence we had ball games (what white folks call Socker, I think) foot races of both boys and girls, and races of dog-teams first by the team driven by men, and later by women, as one looks on at these women; who are mothers, I think of the ingenuity that prompts them to participate in what to me is the most interesting part of all the sports; For who is the American woman a mother of II children, that would put her 6 month old baby on some older womans back (under her Parka) and step onto the runners at the back of the sled to which is hitched maybe as many as 10 very wild, raring, woolly dogs and start on a 5 mile race, this is a sample of the Christmas spirit amongst the Eskimo. All these sports begin at 9 o'clock A.M., and last all day on December 24th, it being scarcely light when the first activities begin, and dark when the last can get done (depending on the weather) but it is usually dark at that time of year at 2:30 P.M.

At 7 P.M. December 24th, every person who can possibly get to the church is into it ere the second ringing of the bell announcing the time the Christmas program is to be given; and this year every one was on hand and oh my, was our Church full and oh so pretty, for there was a large white covering over the entire wall back of the pulpit; on which was a beautiful silver star, with the words "Merry Christmas" in red letters placed in a half circle above the star on the sheets that made the wall look white. Then around the front of the pulpit were also white coverings, over which were draped red and silver streamers from edge of the pulpit floor about half way to the church floor, oh these looked so nice and clean, and along the edge above these drapings were a row of lovely red candles and while the first act was being gotten ready, some one lit these candles and took all the lights out of the church, and just then all the girls of the Bible class came marching in from the outside door, some up the aisle on the womens side of the church, while some went up the aisle on the mens side each one carried a lighted candle, and had lovely wreaths of silver etc. about their heads. They went up onto the platform, and it was full from one side to the other. They sang about the happiest time of all the year being Christmas, then marched out again, then we had all the entertainment, a copy of the whole is enclosed here in. And to crown out our pleasant evening dear old Santa came in for a few minutes, and we kept him as long as possible for he had so many____ small packages in his Pack it took us a while to get them given out. Then there were for each home a sack with something in for each person living in that home. And after all this Santa waved good bye to us all and said that he must hurry along. And we all had our arms full of packages and was trying to get ready to put some in our pockets and one of the church Elders and Miss Stauffer were talking then she asked us to all stand and sing Praise God from whom all blessings flow, etc., and to sing this was very easy, for we all know it without our books. Then we took our packages and went home, but our church was so prettily decorated with that big Merry Christmas still looking as bright as at first, and those red and silver drapings all around, until really we did not seem to want to leave our church.

And just to think it is only because of the kindness of you folks who keep us a Missionary here to help us to know what Christmas is about. So we all thank you for your so kindly sending our helper the many parcels and boxes of things from which she must get the gifts that she has to give to us at Christmas time, and we wish you all the best of health and happiness in the days to come.

"From Eskimo Land"

Sincerely yours,

EMMA M. STAUFFER

Wales.Alaska.
Jan 20th 1938

Rev J E Youel.
Fairbanks.
Alaska.

Dear Rev.Youel;

Here it is time for reports again,and I think the last ones are still in the Post Office.But all reprts are here in enclosed. You will notice a large blank space on them this time;so as it is so large I confess to you the reason,which is that I had a tumble on the ice as I was hurrying home from looking after a sick person,two days after Christmas and sprained my spine so badly that I could hardly move for days,and days, but I did manage to get home and over to the teachers ere it got too sore but after having to sit up for some time because I could not lie down I got word to Louis to send Amy to me,so things went better then,but I had to get Theodore to hold Prayer meeting,and on Sabbath I still could not walk right, so I got Louis to hold the meetings that day,but I held teachers meeting as usual here in my kitchen, the first Sabbath and by the next,I could walk a little and was able to get over to the church meetings. But am going again as usual these days,but I think I shall keep Amy if she will stay.

There has been very little sickness and I am very thankful for this as we have one old,old woman who is of the old time medicine Crew,and she will not let many who would come to me for help;come until it is too late to do anything for them. Some got sickwhen or soon after I had fell, and they came to the teachers,who came to me,and we got them taken cared of alright too. My'the Eskimo were very kind to me,one little Lad came to be Chore boy and is still on the job,for which I will gave him something .

I am certainly having a great stisfaction in having my new room to hold meetings in this winter.Last Saturday was abusy day in it,and the day ended by the Boys Bible class meeting. Sabbath Afternoon I hold the two separate sets of Girls Bible classes,one class has I4 in it,and the other has 8 in it,these keep me busy all of the afternoon,untilabout twilight,as I am obliged to dismiss them in time for them to get home ere darkness comes. I do wish you could see the six girls who committed to memory the Shorter Catachism,for which I myself have given them each a Bible,they are six of the 8 of the one Bible class,and how proudly they display their new Bibles. Now I had thot to not try teaching any others the Catechism as it seemed such as task for these six;but not so,as many of the younger girls are wanting to learn it this year so at teaching it to them I be,tho they may not get it committed this year ere I must close the class when the time of taking ca ra of the meat at spring hunting season begins,but they will get it later on.

I intended to hold Prayer meetings in the new room,well we tried it just once,and the crowd was so large that they could not get in it, and many went home;so I went back to they church. Of course you will say ; well that is the proper place for it;and it is but maybe you remember how chilly you were in the church when you were here;well;I assure you it is ten times more chilly here in the winter time;and we have a very,very cold church but a very good building;as buildings go in this part of Alaska, but I am going to write and ask the Mission to let me have another stove for my use in church;and I think that will help matters very much. Usually we can get our church warm enough to be comfortable just once yearly,which is at Dec 25 when I fire it for two days in succession or about three days.

Now Rev Youel;I wish to ask you a question;and I would be pleased for you to consider all sides of it ere you answer it to me; When you;the Moderator of our church Session are absent;when the Elders and I hold Session meeting,who should preside; the ruling Elder(oldest in office) or myself. We have held meeting and I presided,as you did,as my Elders seem shoaldoss as to what to do,or how to do. But I want to do what you think I should. The great difficulty of allowing these Eskimo too much sway is that

_____ if there is any way possible,they will over step all authority any missionary could have;if it is kept from the very start;and will do as they please with the church services, use of the church and in a short time become very difficult to handle. So to me it would seem the wisest thing to either have whoever is missionary here to be in charge of,or responsible for all meetings,or let the ruling Elder preside at the meeting;and the Missionary act as Moderator in the abscence of the regular Moderator of that Presbytery.

I am asking you this question so there may not be any complaint made against me in later years for presiding at the Session Meetings in your abscence. Elder Louis is A fine Eskimo,but very,very hard to handle,so obstinate if he dont get his own way in everything. So I wish you would do some very,very far ahead thinking ere you may tell me the answer to my question.

We had such a fine time for Dec 25th,and I thought of you so many times,that I am very sorry you could not be here,and I am wondering if it could be arranged for you to be here at that time next year,you I am sure would get a very different idea of the work here. And I dont see why you could not get here because all this (year) winter we have had our mail brot to us by Plane from Nome,via Teller.

Will you please send this letter on to Dr Somerndike,or as much of it as you deem wise to send on.probably you wish to send only the first or nearly all of the first sheet,but I would like him to get the part necessary for his information about the work,and the new room here etc.

Hoping this finds you and Mrs Youel in the best of health
I remain

Sincerely yours

Emma M. Stauffer

Send to Dr J M Somerndike, please.

Wales, Alaska.

Jan 20th 1938

Report of list of Interpreters:

1937	Dec	16th	Robert Mayo
	"	19th	Alfred Mazonna
	"	23rd	Dwight Tevuk
	"	25th	Robert Mayo
	"	26 th	Alfred Mazonna
	"	30th	No Interpreter needed
1938	Jan	2nd	" " " "
	"	6th	Louis Tungwenuk
	"	9th	Robert Mayo
	"	13th	Dwight Tevuk

Signed Emma M. Stauffer.

Wales.Alaska.
Jan 24th 1938

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#156 5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr.Somerndike;

Now I fear you may say I should have had my thinking cap on and put this order in my list for the supplies for 1938,when you read this letter. But I confess at that time I had not ciphered out any solution of our difficulties in trying to heat up our church auditorium. Because I had just been doing as the Eskimo have been;freezing my feet till they were numb and rubbing my hands to keep them from getting stiff from the cold, and had to thaw out after each service,until I am thinking there is surely some better way for me to arrange to warm the church to make it more comfortable than we have been having it.

There is just one stove in the center of the auditorium,which is a huge thing,that takes about two hours to heat it before it gives off any heat,to warm the room. And to me it seems it would be better to put in another stove,then reset this stove,to have this old stove on one side ,and a new stove on the other aide of the auditorium. Then surely I could get the room warmed enough to be tolerable for service length of one hour.

These times I start the fire from 4 to 3 hours before service and comsume from one to two sacks of coal,and I can not get the frosty air out of the room,and even when the service is over there is still a large bed of red hot coals in the stove,from coal put in before the echo of the bell from the first ringing,which is thirty minutes before service begins;which are lost each time we have Sabbath school,or church service or prayer service.

But I do not think you should let me have another coal burning stove. Ithink we should put in an;Oil Fuel burning stove,which is much cheaper;after the installation of it;and thus reduce our current expenses for fuel,which comes very heavy yearly. I will attach a drawing of the pipe line we would need for to carry the oil from the Tank to the stove;and I do ask you to have this pipe line all cut to fit,with all its necessary connections and all fixturesthat are needed for feeding the oil into the Fuel plate in the stove. And please do not give me a large stove,because it takes a stove too long to get warmed up,when it is too large,we want it small,so it will get too hot and make the room warm up.

I cannot hold Prayer meeting in my new room for the crowd is too large,we tried it and many could not get in,so we meet in the church now and to say we are cold does not possibly fully interpret just how cold we really are. But my new room is a life saver to me for my Bible classes and other meetings and I am grateful for your kindness in allowing me to have it made.

If you can let me have the Fuel oil burning stove for the church,it will do away with some of the everlasting begging for coal from the missionary for lacadasical natives,who get very much put out when I have sacks and sacks of coal on hand,and I do not and will not begin to give them coal,there is plenty of drift wood if they will go after it. And many of them make as much as $7.per day at the Tinmines for three months or over in the summer,and they spend it oh so foolishly,two men,fathers of big families got Victrolas and records this last year,and such records,I would like to make a bon fire of them,but I dare not say anything,but am teaching the girls to learn to have useful things and be careful of their belongings.

Elder Louis was just in and he tells me to ask you to be sure and have the apparatus that acts as a regulator,that goes on the pipe line that comes as the feed line from the oil drum somewhere near to the stovewhich is used to prevent an overflow of oil which seems sometimes comes and causes explosion.

You people will have the whole outfit when you get it and can connect it up to see that it works ere you send it to me. And there should be some kind of a spigot, or valve or something that can be attached to the barrel,to keep the oil from running out of a new drom or barrel when it is being put into place to be connected up to the pipe line. As the drum will be put up on a frame we cam make ourselves here; out in the coal room,and the pipe goes in thr the partition into the church room.

If you send the Fuel Oil burning Stove_____then we will need;

2 ____50 gallon Drums of Fuel oil.

But if you men know that the Fuel oil burning stoves are no good for to make heat to warm up a room;then please do not send it to me. But I think you understand that it is not an affair like to a wick oil burner as is seen in Sears & Roebuck,or Montgomery Wards catalogs. What I seek is an entirely different outfit,there are many in use in Nome,and some in Teller,as well as in many other places in Alaska, and people like them because they say they are more satisfactory than coal stoves,cheaper after the installation at first And it seems to me if I had a medium sized stove of the type you sent me last year,with the Fuel oil burning plate;not wick;in it that it surely would be useful for what I want it. But I say again that if you or whoever does the purchasing for you disagrees,then I will not argue against you. Of course Capt Backland will likely be opposed to it as it will cut down his income as he has now on the numerous tons of coal he hauls for you,but look at the situation from the financial side and from efficiency side and if you can send the outfit,I shall do my best to get it in and in working order ere we face being frozen next winter as we have been in the past.

And if you are not sending the aforesaid stove and etc then may you please let me have A stove ~~smaller than~~(~~just one size smaller~~) ~~than~~ you ~~sent to me last year~~.but the same type please,like in Schwabackers Hardware Catalog,Stove # I3 C C____ 4I inches high,would be large enough;which I will put in my new room,and take the one you sent last year to the church.

Galvanized steel;

" Stove pipe	Angles___45,degrees	___6	inch size	_____	4 only
" " "	Elbows 28 gauge	___6	" "	_____	2 "
" " "	Taper 24 inches long	6	7to 6 inch	_____	2 "

I am in need of these stove pipe elbows,& angles & taper joints with any kind of stove you may send. And please send galvanized heavy ones as the new ordinary stove pipe which I put up last year in the church is very badly rusted now.

May it be I am not unreasonable in asking for what I have in this letter, but I feel sure if you men were here for just one service youwould not even come to the next one for you would need a week to get thawed out. Rev.Youel said the church seemed so chilly when he was here,and I dont think he could find words to express his thoughts were he here these times.

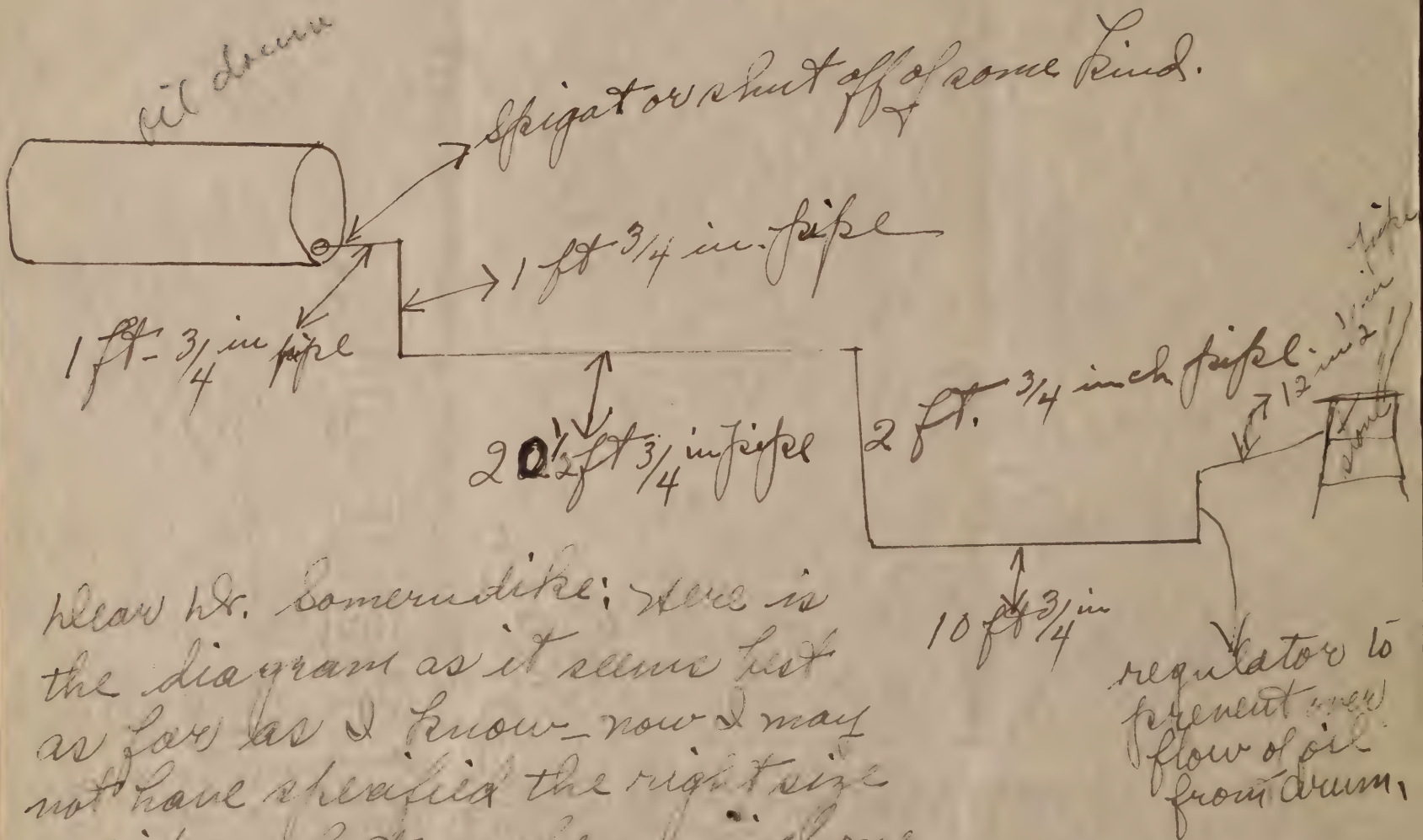
As far as I know all is well amongst the people,we had our monthly Elders meeting last Sabbath afternoon,and all seemed to be interested and content.

An Eskimo who is a bit odd mentally got to prowling about at night,so I was afraid to stay alone and now have a daughter of Elder Louis Tungwenuk's living with me all the time. Of course I have not told any one here why I have this girl living with me.

Hoping to hear from you at your convenience I am

Sincerely yours Emma M. Steffler

See attached drawing of Fuel Oil
tank or drum and pipe line etc necessary ; as we see it


oil drum
Spigot or shut off of some kind.
1 ft 3/4 in. pipe
1 ft. 3/4 in pipe
2 1/2 ft 3/4 in pipe
2 ft. 3/4 inch pipe
1/2 in pipe
10 ft 3/4 in
regulator to prevent free flow of oil from drum.

Dear Dr. Somerndike; Here is the diagram as it seems but as far as I know now I may not have specified the right size of pipe - but maybe an inch one should be used from drum to regulator but I notice other people that have a small pipe to go to the stove - but I leave this to the judgement of some one more experienced than I am.

E. M. Stauffer

Wales.Alaska.
Feb.I4th.I938.

Dr J.M.Somerndike
#I56 5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr.Somerndike;

In reply to your last letters concerning the maintaining some kind of protection from the high waters in front of the church,or even now filling in around the front of the church will say that all of my elders are not of a mind to do this,and I have found by experience with these people,that when this is the opinion of the one man:Elder Louis Tungwenuk:that he influences all other people and I simply am at a loss to get anything done. Louis has his own ideas,and no matter what the issue is,if he does not want to do it,he will not,nor will he let others do anything.

I offered to pay the men for filling in with stone or sods or gravel from the beach,around the front of the church,and they will not do it,they say it is of no advantage.

Then we talked of moving the church to higher ground,and they ,my elders say that the church is in the center of the town;which is now Wales;but which formerly was two separate villages,and to move the church to a place that would be a place of safety in the future,we would have to take it to the south end of town,where we can get a place on solid ground,high enough above the sea to remain there for many years. A few of the Eskimo have their homes on this section;which is the slope of the mountain,below the rock line. If I was choosing a site for thechurch there is where I would place it;and some of the Eskimo want me to go ahead and ask you to place it there,now before you go ahead and roof it.

And I announced as my elders wished me to do; there would be a meeting of all the congregation on last Saturday evening at 7P.M., and I got the church ready,and a couple men came in and helped to light the lamps etc. But the elders came,and just seven other persons,seven of all the membership of this church;but I blame this on elder Louis,because he proclaimed that the women were not wanted, and as always happens when teachers do this way;only a very few men come near.But some of those who did come were so determined to have their say;about getting the church moved to higher ground,that I knew Louis would get so angry that he would likely make a split in the church body or walk out himself and take up with the first crowd that would come along this way,so as there were so few,we could not call it a meeting;and the elders said no use to wait for them,as they would not come;while those people present at once said others never would comewhen they had not came to the meeting this time,so Thanked the outsiders for comming they left and had a discussion about what best to do with my three elders,and Louis said if I had you permit me to wreck the church to move it to higher ground;the men would not work at all,because he knew they did not want the church moved,and neither would they fill it in around the foundation,of course I knew they would not do this latter as the first Fall I was here I had the crowd of I4 men who had worked all day getting stone loose on the mountain side ready to bring over and Louis came in the evening,and told the men to stop working,that they would do this the next spring,and when I was ready for them to work in the spring,I then had to go to help those missionaries at Shis maref, and I have tried many times since,but they will not work,except one

man that helped me fill up the sacks of gravel from the beach which he and I put around the front of the foundation to keep the earth,which is mostly sand;and the old whale bones from falling out from under the church.

So it seems my elders are determined that the church will stay where it is and I fear that if we;at this time make a move of it;that it will do more harm to the mission work here than a real flood into any missionary's house;(which will come if the water gets very little higher than it did last Fall;) will do damage to the work here. And as far as any concern for the protection of the manse is in the mind of 95% of the Eskimo;it is simply not there. As I had to jump out over the debris that the high water had at my door last Fall and went to the teachers first,and his wife and I went together;up into town to inquire of some of the older men if they thot we should move our food stuffs out onto some higher place,and then they said for us to get ready and they would come in a body and move us quickly if the water kept getting higher. Just dont think for a minute that they came to us;we have to look out for ourselves or swim,or sink. The old man who dropped dead his house was surrounded on three sides with water,when word came to me that he was dead I asked the teacher to wade thru and go to them as the water was nearly hip boot deep in the direction of their house.

As I have told you before these people are most obstinate and hard to handle;unless they get everything done for them then they are as docile and as congenial as lambs,but I like them in spite of their peculiarities. I have the little girl still with me but tho she is a daughter of elder Louis Tungwenuk,she has turned out to be anything but what she should be,but I am saying nothing to her parents,will try to handle her myself,for a while at least,after school I may let her go home to help gather Herbs for her people.

I have not chosen a plot of ground because the space is so small around the church,as it is so near the village.

But you must choose a plot,for mission property,and due to the pacularities of these natives;want to let them have their own way;and continue the church where it is;then I would say for you to take from the north end;at the beach;of the government plot reserve as on the drawing I sent you some time ago,just 250 feet frontage,and run it back at this same width of 250 ft,for the distance of500 ft,directly along the side of the government reserve.This would include on it the present church and you might squeeze in a Manse at some future time above the present church bldg. if a flood dont destroy it.

But what I really think we should do would be to wait until I get Rev.Youel here again this Fall and let him see the situation,and help us to decide what is best to do . Because I think it will cause much trouble in the church body if we go ahead and move the church now.

And I think when we do move it we should go over onto the spot on higher land;as I mentioned before in this letter. Pending your final decision in the matter;as so many shingles are gone from the roof;in order to keep from ruining the interior of the church,I shall be obliged to get locally some roofing paper and fasten it on with strips of boards,or any way I can;besides the roofing nails in it ,to keep us from getting too wet. And this will suffice for the roof unless you want to send the shingles and I can hold them here and get them put on in the spring of 1939,when many men are available ere the Tin mines open up.Then they are always hard up for food and will work;no matter what elder Louis has to say about anything. As I find from some work he has done for me it would not be best if we want a good job of the roof;to give him the contract of putting it on. I had better manage this myself,or you get a white man to do it for you. I think you could get the white man who comes with his crew of some white men each spring to open up the work at the Tin mines,to first bring his men and

roof the church for you,early in the spring of 1939,before they can work at the mines;because of snow on their tinfields. That is if you after Rev Youel has been here and investigated the situation and agrees to keep in with the Eskimo and maintain the church here.

The Manse is not and never was attached to the church;tho if it was then I could get to the church with out having to alway to out into all kinds of weather; as it would be if we rebuilt as I wrote you of making everything under one roof. So the old house that we have honored by the name of Manse is not movable;except by tear ing it down and this as you know always wastes so much of the lumber of any building.

I think it best to not send that oil burning stove for the church this summer until Rev Youel has been here and we decide fully what to do as it will be difficult for me to get it in,and there is no use to go to this expense just for possibly one year,as the pipe fittings woud not be right length etc for to put into any other room when we might move the church. Best to let the coal come this year yet until we see what we should do.

Please read and reread this before you come to any conclusion of the situation,if you could only wait until I would go home isn't it next spring then I could talk everything over with you. Under the circumstances I am thinking it best to WAIT until I see you,unless you must as I say choose a mission plot now;as I myself do not want the church kept here as it makes the present mission house in the direct path of even moderately high sea,but to wreck the house and church for moving would be a loss of much of the lumber,as it gets badly broken up. I will manage to survive where I am somehow until I get to see you. And when I now have to patch the roof of the church;to have any dry seats to sit on in it: that would do until a year or so.

Hoping you will have time to read all this and to hear from you in the future concerning the contents of this letter I am

Very sincerely yours

Emma M. Stauffer.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

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DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
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LC = Deferred Cable
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Received at

1938 FEB 15 PM 11 58

EAA333 29 NL 3 EXTRA VIA NOME=WALES ALASKA VIA TINCITY ALASKA

DR J M SOMERMDIKE=

15

156 FIFTH AVE NYK=

NO DEFINITE SOLUTION REACHED IN REGARDS TO YOUR LAST LETTER STOP CANCEL ORDER FOR STOVE AND FUEL OIL FOR THIS YEAR STOP DETAILS FOLLOW BY LETTER=

EMMA STAUFFER.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

Wales,Alaska.

Feb.2Ist.I938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#I56___5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr.Somerndike;

I presume long ere this can get to you,that you will have received my last letter,and also the telegram likely first of all. But after sending my letter I was thinking possibly I made a mistake by not going ahead and letting those few men who did come to the called meeting of the congregation;have their say about what they wanted to do about moving the church where it would be safe from floods.

But I did not do that because from every side there seemed to be a strong feeling that the church should be moved;except the opinion of my three Elders.And I was fearful as to what the result of a heateddiscussion would mean to the good of the spiritual work of the church.

Because after all I am not here to please myself;and in the first place this old house could never be moved without being completely torn down,and then no one would ever want to build it up again as it is,with all its nooks and off sets.oh yes an Eskimo would,but not a white person,I get along in it very well now since I have the new room to hold meetings in,and got a partition put in to have a little bit of privacy for my bed_room and this room is also the store room for mission box,donations that come in by mail etc,that keeps every person who came into my house from seeing everything I possess,at a glance.

I will get flooded,there is no doubt about it if the waters come very little more than they did last year,but Elder Louis was telling me lately that they dont want to see this house torn down,because it is the oldest house in Wales,and was erected by the Mr.Thornton whose tombstone stands in plain view of the whole village,and the Mr.Lopp, whose letter I sent to you.

Possibly I am a little too aggressive for these people who have been catered to so much ever since the work began here. But I am now seeing them begin to look out for themselves more this year than last, as they do not come borrowing as much as they did. Of course I would lend,if they would ever return,but from experience I found if I am in need of anything,it pays to buy from them,and teach them to purchase, or do without as I do when I cant buy what I want.

One young man has always been the organist;and as so many found fault with him,he begged me to try to get others to learn to play,so now I have two others who can play some,so they take turn about these winter months. But it is like pulling teeth to get them to do anything for themselves. And the only thing they all will do most willingly is to eat anything at any time I will give to them. The Mayor was so pleased

___with the loaf of bread that I gave him in a parcel for Christmas & that he would not allow his family to eat but a little of it at a time, as he said he wanted to keep it as long as he could:to look at.

And we all did seemingly have such a nice time at Christmas,because the under current of hatred that has existed for over a year had about died out,and it was all over nothung,just that the Government Teacher had put a certain man in as Store_manager,when the town Mayor wanted some one else in.

Now this teacher has had Elder Louis put in asmanager of the store and Louis is having his own troubles watching the corners to try to keep on good terms with them all,which is a hard task,when the adults; when hungry for the white mans food stuffs,are as a child,think if they make enough noise,they will get what they want,so they are complaining.

But at a recent meeting of the Elders,we talked of getting more men to help in the Sabbath School teaching;so they always try me out to get me to say who I would like to have,and I do try to get those that it is quite plain that they want. So at last Sabbath morning's Teachers Bible class we had two new men join us,and all seemed very happy over this.

I am sorry to have to let my Boy's Bible class be free now from this week as some of them are quite large,and must go hunting and are tired out when it comes evening,and since the days are so long now they are often many miles from home at 7 P M. But I have had a fine class this winter and I offered those who would have perfect attendance records at the time when I would close the class;a gift of some kind; I told them they might be obliged to eat what they got as a gift;and they have almost kept a perfect record.Expect to close it this Saturday evening.

Have been expecting to have to close the Adult Girls Bible class too; most any time now as the women are out fishing most everyday now as well as many girls.Of course this class meets on Sunday;but if the Eskimo is wanting to fish,or hunt,they do it no matter the day. But I am most thankful that two of my Elders are very good at keeping the Sabbath most of the time.

Last Sabbath morning was so nice that it seemed the children were all on hand for Sabbath School,I had 22 in my class and there were just 30 in the little Tots class; so many that I had to take one class into my Dispensary room. This class the young man who has been at Sheldon Jackson school for several,teaches in the english language for me. And our church was so full,but it is so nice to have them all on hand. But when it comes daylight inthe evenings the attendance will not be so good,for they will get out on the mountain and stay out for all day,and even now they feast on the frozen black berry that is not covered by the snow,so then I shall have to give up all the Bible classes that I now hold on Sabbath afternoons

We had a few nice days last week and I got Elder Theodore Statuk and two young men to patch the roof of the church,and much to my surprise and in spite of the fact that Elder Louis said the men would not work;they came and worked most willingly and very well indeed,and were so kind and so nice about everything. Really I do enjoy working with these people I do get discouraged sometimes,but who is there that dont do this.

This just gives you some idea of what we are all doing these times. I will close soliciting your prayers for the work here,Sincerely. E. M. Stauffer

Wales, Alaska.

Feb. 22nd. 1938.

List of names of Interpreters for the month ending Feb. 14th, 1938.

Jan	16th	'38	Alfred Mazonna
"	20 "	"	Robert Mayo
"	23rd	"	Dwight Tevuk
"	27th	"	Dwight Tevuk
"	30th	"	Alfred Mazonna
Feb	3rd	"	Robert Mayo
"	6th	"	Dwight Tevuk
"	10 "	"	Robert Mayo
"	13 "	"	Alfred Mazonna

Signed Emma M. Stauffer.

Wales.Alaska.
Mar.10th.1938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#156__5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr.Somerndike;

Your letter of January 20th has been to hand since the 7th inst,and I sent you a telegram by night letter from Tin City in regard to the coal,which I hope you have gotten long ere this time, and may I say further on the same matter.

My reason for ordering the 18 tons of coal for this year was that in the winter of 1936 and 1937 my coal got done except for a few sacks in the church and those I had to keep for use in the church,and a few sacks that I used sparingly on the days that I baked bread. This was the state of affairs about the 15th of Feb,1937. So I mentioned the situation to Backland last year that I was most glad to see him,as my coal was long ere his arrival;done;and he said then that I should try to keep a little extra on hand,and tho you mention in your letter that you sent me only ten tons;as that was the quantity I had gotten the previous year,I asked Backland to give me some extra, which he said he did. It means serious business when one runs out of whatever they use for fuel,not only having to abide in a below zero abode,and sleeping in even a colder place,cooking on a little Primus oil stove;which was also used to warm up my little kitchen where I was obliged to live most all the time.

The teachers gave me all their old boxes for fuel, and I used this same sort of refuse that I could dispense with of the mission materials;thus I put in the winter.

But I sent a wire to you to the affect that so far this winter has been mild,and I still have some little supply of coal on hand,but we may have cold weather all thru,the balance of this month and April was very,very cold last year as was also most of May.

When I must give you my order for coal etc in January there is always so much of the winter ahead of me that it is difficult to know how little to order of anything.

I know the expense of our coal is outrageous,to say the least.But since asking for the stove for the fuel oil for the church I hear over the radio at the teachers of the trouble the school teachers are having with their oil(fuel)stoves that I sent you a wire cancelling my request for a stove until I learn more about just what I should ask you to send me. So please cancell the order for the new stove,also for the new grates for the stove,and those pipe fixtures & pipe etc and the stove pipe elbows,and new coal hods.

Because if we put in new Oil Fuel burning stoves,no need to put in new grates and so on until we see what we want to do.

My kitchen cook stove will be done ere many years go by and when a new one is put in likely it will be an oil burning stove. And this has had a water tank heater connected to it located in an adjacent room, which needs be considered in detail.

The little new stove I got new last year in the new room is so satisfactory and heats up so quickly;for to hold childrens meetings and my adolescents Bible classes,that I am wondering if I might be allowed to continue to have enough coal for its use,even if another year you do want to put in an oil burning stove there. If you want to dispense with this coal burning stove I feel sure the Store_keeper will take it and give the mission credit for it,because he has been talking of getting one like it for the store,and I have asked him to wait this year and see, that possibly the mission would put in oil fuel stoves in the church and Manse,so he has consented to wait for me to manage to get this stove for him. If you want to put in an oil fuel stove here,I think better take advantage on the storekeepers interest and get something for this coal stove,while it is new. But I shall not settle the deal with him until I am sure you are willing to send me the new stove in the year 1939.

The new stove grates I had ordered were for the heater stove in my bedroom and general utility room,it is so good that if you get rid of the coal stove referred to in the above paragraph,to me it seems that it might be possible to retain this heater stove while it lasts as I could put up with the old grate a while yet,as there are always so many boxes,cardboard,and woodden,in which my supplies and the mission things come in that I think we should;for the present at least;plan to retain one stove and get some coal to use along with the refuseboxes etc and that would use up the material that otherwise I would have no stove in which to use them,and they make a lot of heat as I learned last year when I was out of coal. Or if you say so I will try to make a deal with the storekeeper on this heater stove,and keep the new stove mentioned in the preceeding paragraph;and by doing this I could keep all my old boxes and rubbish in the old coal house,and handy.

I would like your permission to go ahead and arrange to get you something for which ever stove I can make the deal on. Because there is so much complaint comming in over the radios about these oil fuel stoves that the one Elder who can stir up the whole village into most anything he wants has it in his mind that you will just have to do as he says;thus keep the old coal stove in the church,which I want to get rid of,because of the expense of the coal;and put in first one oil fuel stove on one side of the auditorium,keeping this coal stove on the other side. So;as I have learned that it takes about one year to get anything started amongst these people I think it best to let the ten ton of coal come up for this year 1938,and if it is possible I shall get arranged so that we shall get the new oil fuel stoves in for the year following.

I feel now that I can manage the getting on of the new shingles in the early spring of 1939,as the Eskimo men do have a slack time then, and the school teacher who is here now is very good to advise and help so I will get it done somehow. This may make it that I cant go out on that time but maybe I can go later as I dont want to stay long,leaving my work here without anyone.

As far as I know all are content and seem interested in what I am trying to teach their children,and oh my how careful one has to go about it all. And they are so pleased to know they are learning to do a bit for themselves. Sincerely yours Emma M. Stauffer

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WESTERN UNION

MS

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
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Received at 1938 MAR 14 PM 6 28

EAA129 20 NL 3 EXTRA VIA NOME=

WALES ALASKA VIA TINCITY ALASKA 14

DR HOMERNDIKE=

156 FIFTH AVE NYK=

WINTER HAS BEEN MILD TEN TONS COAL SUFFICIENT STOP HAVE SOME ON HAND STOP DETAIL MY LETTER=

EMMA STAUFFER.

NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE IS MADE FOR REQUESTING A REPLY BY WESTERN UNION

Wales.Alaska.
March.I8th,I938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#I56__5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr.Somerndike;

The reports I presume will be going on to you and you will notice a falling off in attendance,characterisic of the people at this season of the year because the day light time is here,with each day getting longer,and it just seems they are like birds that have been caged for months and months,they just stay out doors for hours at atime, and a meeting is nothing to them, if they are in the village they will come. But often at 7 P M,the men are many miles from home either hunting or after firewood.

We have two new;additional;Sabbath School teachers now and everyone seems quite happy. I teach my class myself each Sabbath,but the ordinary Eskimo wants an assistant teacher,as he says the people get tired of hearing one man always,so the regular teacher and his assistant teach turn about,on alternate Sabbaths. This seems queer to me,but it is their way,and it makes it so that I can have more young men in training;so to speak;for greater responsibilities in the work of the church.

As far as I know through out the village every one seems happy and content;as far as his own lot can let him be. This month has been very stormy and is very cold,so I have not visited much besides in the homes where there is or has been sickness,or new babies.

I dont know what sort of a scheme the Nurses are trying to put into effect now. Some time ago the Head one in Juneau wrote me that no one was allowed to practice nursing either for pay or grattuitously;in Alaska;who was not a registered nurse,to which I replied that I was registered,and did not feel like paying the high fee of $I0.00 besides my registration fee in the USA,just to get called a registered nurse in Alaska,and that I was not practing my nursing profession here, only to help out as the natives asked me to do so,and that I did not get anything in return for my services,not even gratuitously. So;as I have not had any word from the Nurses Reg. Dept. in the USA(no telling what they are up to)and they had always sent me notice yearly when it was time to pay my registration fee.

So in case you hear of anything about me being in Wales;as the nurse; please feel free to make it clear that I am not here in that capacity at all;as I only help or advise the natives as they come after me for help,as no government nurse has even came here once since about I934 or I935. But it seems the longer I am here the more the people depend onme,but I never interfere with what the teachers want to do medically for them,more often the teachers wife and I go together as we did just lately with a seriously ill woman;and all seems to work well.

I like this place very much and the people and if it is agreeable to all parties concerned would like to remain here. And I pray that it may be the will of God to send suitable new teachers to u

#2 ___Dr Somerndike

As it is rumored that these will be going out this year or be sent elsewhere,for which I am very,very sorry,as new ones always have a hard time amongst these child like people for at least one year.

Soon the natives from Diamede Island will be comming to Trade for food stuff at our store,and I suppose the Catholic Priest will come too as he is usually starved out,as most all them are in the spring,as far as the white man's food is concerned.

I dread their comming as they are so uncouth;ten times more so than my people;that VICE stalks our paths day and night,and immorality in its worst form is visible,to the observing eye.

The Priest made quite a fuss last spring that no one kept a hotel in Wales;for his accommodation;the teachers would not have him;only for a meal or two;so he boldly walked into my house;I gave him his breakfast only;and told him I did not keep accommodations for travelers,no how. So he left Wales somewhat disgruntled over the hospitality of its people. But I am expecting he will come again this year after he has eaten all the white man's food at Diamede Island that he can get; and stay with some of the natives here;for as long as they are silly enough to feed him. But I will not take him or any traveler in for more than a meal. Because I live alone and certainly do not want any of them in my house with me.

Am telling you these things for you might hear something;and wonder what it is all about.

Hoping long ere this reaches you that you have gotten the years order for supplies straightened out suitable to you I remain

Very sincerely yours

Emma M. Stauffer

Wales.Alaska.

March,I8th,I938.

Report of number of Interpreters for month ending March I4th,I938.

Feb.	I7th	Dwight Tevuk.
"	20 "	Robert Mayo
"	24 "	Alfred Mazonna
"	27 "	Dwight Tevuk
Mar.	3 "	Metting led by an Elder.
"	6	Robert Mayo
"	I0	Alfred Mazonna
"	I3	Dwight Tevuk

Signed by Emma M. Stauffer.

Missionary in charge.

Mar.
18th
1938

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I have your letters of January 3rd and February 14th in the same mail. We will send you fifty copies of "Vesper Chimes", as you have requested. If possible, the people ought to be encouraged to purchase them at fifty cents each, but if they do pay you the money for them it will have to be refunded to the Board rather than being used as you state Percy used similar funds for equipment for the church.

I am sending you free of charge a copy of our Book of Common Worship which contains the regular form of service for funerals, etc.

I have suggested to Mr. Youel that the Presbytery ordain you as an elder, which would enable you to moderate meetings of your session and to perform certain other functions which are permitted under our Constitution in places where a minister is not available.

With reference to the matter of moving the property, I quite agree with you that the best plan is to do nothing about it for the present but to wait until Mr. Youel returns again next Fall, and then have him go over the whole matter with you and with the people of the church. When a decision is reached, I will have to have a clear description of the property to which you wish to move the church - if that proves to be the will of the people - to present to the Washington office in order to get any action at all. Of course, I cannot promise that the Washington office will grant a request for another site.

In the meantime I think that it would be very unwise to leave the roof of the church in the present condition. We will therefore send you a supply of shingles and building paper on the "Holmes" this summer, as stated in my letter of January 20th, and you will have to make the best possible arrangements to have the work done.

We received your telegram reducing your order for coal to ten tons, and that is the quantity we will send you. We also received your wire to cancel your order for an oil stove and fuel oil, and we note from your letter that you have decided to postpone installing the stove until you have an opportunity to discuss the matter of moving the church with Mr. Youel. This is entirely satisfactory to us.

With all good wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Please send

Miss Emma Stauffer

Wales

Alaska

50 "Vesper Chimes"

1 "Book of Common Worship"

Apr.
13th
1938

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I have your letter of March 10th. I have ordered twelve tons of coal shipped to you this summer. If you will find out exactly the type of oil stove that is wanted, and how many of them you will need, and send me all the particulars, I shall arrange to order them to be sent to you in the summer of 1939 so that you can then do without any further shipments of coal. You will have to have an oil-burning cook-stove, and as I understand it, an oil-burning stove in the church. You probably will need an oil-burning stove also to heat the manse. Just tell me exactly what you want in the way of oil-burning stoves, and I will send them to you in 1939. I think it would be unwise for you to sell your coal-stove to the storekeeper until the oil stoves arrive in 1939. Don't make any deal with him until that time.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Wales.Alaska.
April I5th,I938

Dr.J.M.Somerndike;&,Rev.J.E.Youel.

Dear friends;

You will find enclosed;the reports for this month which are already beginning to fall off in numbers of attendance. Because two families have already gone down to Nome in search of steady work for the summer;these may and may not return in the Autumn.

The work has been going on as usual and as far as I am aware;contentedly;for which we should be thankful. We do have some in our number that are still adrift in their immoral practices which they think I am unaware of;but they are a problem;and will be as long as their Grand_parents advocate this sort of thing. And much to my horror the government nurse tells these people that is the right way to do;to increase the population anyway they can. But it is well for us that she only stayed a few days as the better ones of my Eskimo were stunned by such advice.

The spring is here with its glorious sunshine;and birds a_singing,so my little folks find it difficult to attend Bible class, and I have closed their class for the summer. And I have also closed adult girl's bible class,because most of their time is taken up by the women's spring work of fishing and keeping hunting outfits in order for their big brothers etc. But I have a second set of adult girls who are a bit younger and do not have to do so much work as their older sisters that will constitute my sewing club,and we will keep on along with the meeting of the Club;our study of the Catechism;and I shall try to continue this as long as they are interested this summer.

If too many families move away for the summer for work;then I shall stop trying to hold classes. Summer is nice but it brings its hindrances;for the good of the people is at STAKE with all sorts of ships and transient campers stopping here;that I am surprised my people are as respectable as they are.

The Lutheran Minister at Shishmaref;Alaska; previous to the Unit meeting of the reindeer association;that includes,Teller,Ogloo,Teller Mission,Wales,Ikpik,Deering,Espenberg,Sungeak,and Shishmaref natives;had planned to have a special program for Easter;as people from each of these places always attend the reindeer meeting,so he sent me a tentative list of expected participants in his Easter activities,inviting me to come and be prepared to stay over Easter Sunday with them. Of course I was busy for my Easter program;and stayed at home to look after my people here. Some of my natives went and got themselves into the appointment as delegates on the so called"Circuit Convention", which Rev. Elmer E. Dahle,plans to hold each spring;I presume about the time of the Unit reindeer meeting,because there were so many people there,and they held their old_time Eskimo dances in the school house every night;practically all night long;so our teacher says;so I know Rev Dahle had seen their manoevers last year and was trying to have a <u>something</u> to try to hold to decent civilization the some few <u>better ones</u> who would likely be present,and they were;amongst them one of my ELDERS. Whom I had asked to try to be home for Easter;he came because our teacher was traveling home by his dog_sled;but seems very much disgruntled that he had to bring the teacher home so soon,but the teacher told me that he thot the natives had wasted too much time having a good time.

I am telling you all this because my Elder seems to think it will be a help for the natives to have something of this sort. Of course; he is a ring leader in their dancing;and he and another of my Elders are ring leaders at the card playing everywhere;Wales included.

I said; since he had gotten himself appointed delegate to Rev Dahle's Convention,he; as an Elder could take my place on the program for the next year's meeting;and this would suit me very well,as he was a reindeer man and was obliged to attend the Unit meetings;and could be on hand for the Convention too,as I needed to be at home in Wales looking after my own work.

But I do not know how things will work out. Personnally I am not anxious to make the trip to Shishmaref;the natives charge one $20.00 one way to go by dog sled,and it takes two days to get there;and no less than two days to THAW OUT and get back to normal physically when in less than a week one has to go through it all again to get back home.

I wanted them to hold their Convention as a real Circuit Convention;as: each year at a different village;but they want it where the reindeer Unit meets. So I see no hopes of getting them to change their minds.

This Lutheran minister;Rev Dahle has an outfit for showing pictures;and it seems by reports that he has pictures every Sunday night.so I think this is the attraction for all natives;because old or young,elders or no,they are like a bunch of spoiled foreign children;that can be BAITED by anything at all.

I shall be looking forward to Rev.Youel's visit this autumn as I have already several new babies to be baptized;and the many other problems which may accrue by then. The Elders are even already talking of his comming for they were so pleased to see him last year;several came to me after his departure and wanted to know just how to say his name.

I am getting myself a little engine to recharge my radio batteries;and I am wondering is it not possible that I can use this and get an arrangement to_gether to show some pictures here in my church too. I would like to know what you think of it.

Now you will be reading at this for a week and I am sorry to burden you but one must talk to some one;and here:folks are scarce who have the welfare of the Eskimo at heart;so you have; or; are affording me a great pleasure to converse with me by letter.

Our mail service is most unsatisfactory;too spasmodic for convenience; am hoping next winters arrangements will be better. Due to too much liquor along the route;it seems; we shall likely get all mail by plane next winter. I think it is to be by boat as usual this summer at least.

We had a very pleasant and enjoyable Easter,with the childrens program and special music and I do hope you folks enjoyed the day too.

Very sincerely yours

Emma M. Stauffer

Wales. Alaska.

April,I5th,I938.

Names of the Interpreters for the month ending Apr.I5th,I938

March	I7th,I938	Robert Mayo
"	20	Alfred Mazonna
"	24th	Dwight Tevuk
"	27	Robert Mayo
"	3I	Alfred Mazonna
April	3	Willie Seningetuk
"	7	Dwight Tevuk
"	I0	Robert Mayo
"	I4	Willie Seningetuk

Signed Emma M. Stauffer

Wales.Alaska.
May,25th,1938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#156 5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr.Somerndike;

You will notice by the reports the signs of the scattering out of my people for the summer. This cannot be otherwise in any way,for they will hunt for work where they can get it at any cost to themselves.

But they find work of the type they can do a little hard to find. Several have already began their summers work with pick and shovel at the Tin mines for the new Company that are this season at work on the opposite side of the Cape Mt. And some have began at Tin City and their families have gone too. Several men with their families went to Nome over a month ago and word received here last week is they are still loafing;no work to be had;because the town is over run with white men who are getting all the easy available jobs,I fear the results,for if these men had stayed in Wales,they would have had their living practically for nothing but some ammunition. They want to live on white mans food,and are too haughty to go hunting as the older men still do. In other words they want a white collar job;on the intellect of a pick and shovel man. You would be surprised to see how they try to get things handed out but I tell them I dont get my things for nothing,and they must do as other folks do;work for anything worth while having.

Had a long letter from Rev Youel as he was on his way southward telling me many things;among them about what you spoke of me being an elder here. So I am sending home for my membership and will very gladly unite with the church here;my work is here and God is just as near to me here as He is to the Eskimo,so I gladly cast my lot amongst them. If in case you are planning to send me somewhere else when my term is up here,please let me know as soon as you can so as;now that the time is so short for me;maybe it would be a mistake on my part to transfer my membership here. But I wish to have it here and be ready to be taken into membership when Rev Youel comes this autumn. But I will get it and have it here ready for his comming. And I do hope and pray it may be the will of God to allow me to work on in this place as His servant.

As far as I know everything is alright amongst the people,the spring hunting time is here,and I see very few of them but they seem very nice and congenial,and seem to get more so as time goes o

Have received the Hymn books,will report on them later. Regarding others matters of your last letter I shall aim to do as you wish. Sincerely yours

Emma M Stauffer

Wales,Alaska.
May 25th,I938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.

List of names of the Interpreters for the month ending on May the I4th,I938.

April,I7th,'38 __Dwight Tevuk
" 2Ist _Alfred Mazonna
"24th _Willie Senningetuk
"28th _Dwight Tevuk

May Ist '38 ___Willie Senningetuk
" 5th ___Dwight Tevuk
" 8th ___An Elder led meeting
" I2th ___Alfred Mazonna

Signed Emma M. Stauffer.

May
31st
1938

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I have yours of April 15th. It does not seem to me that it should be necessary for you to make the trip to the Shishmaref unless you feel that it is advisable for you to go, or that there is some special benefit in meeting the folks and seeing how they transact their reindeer business. It seems to me that it would be rather a hardship for you to promise to attend the meeting each year, and even if you did go I think that one or more of the natives at Wales would want to go anyway.

I have been talking with Mr. Youel at the meeting of the General Assembly about making the trip to Wales again next Fall, and he has agreed to do so. He will make arrangements with you regarding the matter.

I do not know whether the engine which you are securing to re-charge your radio batteries would be satisfactory to use in showing pictures. I doubt if it would be satisfactory for a moving picture machine, although it might be possible that you could arrange it in some way to operate a stereopticon. You might talk with the government man or the government nurse about this and see what they advise. I really do not know what kind of an engine you contemplate purchasing, and for that reason it is difficult for me to advise you regarding the matter.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Wales.Alaska.
July.2nd,I938.

List of Interpreters for month ending June I5th I938

May	I5th	Willie Senningetuk
"	I9	Dwight Tevuk
"	22	Willie Senningetuk
"	26	Dwight Tevuk
"	29	Willie Senningetuk
June	2nd	Dwight Tevuk
"	5th	Willie Senningetuk
"	9th	Dwight Tevuk
"	I2	Willie Senningetuk

Signed Emma M. Stanley

Wales.Alaska.
July 2nd,1938.

Dear Rev.Youel;&& Dr. Somerndike.;

Am enclosing the reports for the month of June rather which ended in June and you will notice how few folks I have in town that are interested in church affairs. Of course it has been walrus hunting season ,and they will go after them whenever any one sees one in the sea,they report it to their boat Cap't., then when a man of another Crew sees that Cap't,getting ready to leave,he tells his Cap't.and soon all the men and every boy large enough to help at all is gone to Sea,and just what are left in town come to what ever meeting should be held. I know they must get the walrus when they are passing by,in the spring season,enough to last them until the next spring,and when all Interpreters are gone;I;so far have been able to get Elder Theodore to lead the meeting,and he seems very pleased that I ask him to do this.

There have so many people gone to Nome,and to Tin City, and to the other new Tin Co,that is starting up in the Lagoon north of Wales,that I have very few left in town. One family have moved to Teller Mission;and they may stay there,as the woman was suffering from mental disturbance;inherited; and her husband thot if she would live with her sister,as she wanted to do;she might improve.

The Derblay freight ship came and unloaded my things this week;the sea got rough before they got all the coal off,but it will likely be back as soon as the storm is over,and it gets the freight off for the Tin City folks. And the Eskimo were so kind and helpful in getting my things carried in for me;and my groceries are so clean and nice that some how the longer I am here the better I find myself happy in my environment. Tho sometimes the odor of this strong walrus meat and the whales is enough to make me wish for a gas mask,but I say nothing about it locally.

I am sorry our teachers are being transferred to Junneau and are leaving before our Stores supplies can possibly get here,of course maybe the teacher would not have helped much anyway;as he never has;but the Store Manager could go to the teacher when any difficulty arose. But I am so sorry for Elder Louis,he came to me yesterday and asked if I would help him check up the goods and I told I would help him at anything I could,and be glad to do it,so he seems more at ease now,he does not have such a hard task,but he knows the way we do things are not clear yet to him and he is grateful for help. I will be alone with what few Eskimo families are here then from about July 9th or I2th until new teachers come,likely in October,but that dont worry me in the summer time,as most of the time the men are away from town for several days at a time,so I will be alright.

Dr Somerndike writes me he has spoken to you of the trip to Wales this Fall,and I am going to ask you early;if it would be possible for you to be with ~~you~~ for Thanksgiving Day? We are to have

___all Mails brot by Plane this winter;I am told Hans Mirow has the contract and I feel certain you can get here and get away most any time So I hope you will give this your careful consideration,as I am sure the Eskimo will be very pleased to have you,and you could hold the Communion service and Baptism of infants on the Sabbath following Thanksgiving.

Hoping this finds you and Mrs Youel both well,and that you are rested up from your strenous trip outside and all the meetings you have been leading,and are able to enjoy your Fairbanks home ance again.

The Dean of the University of Alaska,called at our Village last week, he is staying at TinCity,looking after the mining of some tin on some new claims for the new company. Is he Episcopalian?

Sincerely yours Emma M. Stauffer.

Wales. Alaska.

July 15th, 1938.

Rev J E Youel. & Dr. J.M.Somerndike.
Fairbanks.
Alaska.

Dear Rev. Youel;

Enclosed are my reports for the month ending yesterday, also the report of number of Interpreters used.

You will notice the number in attendance is even less than last month; but there is nothing that I know to do about it; so many adults are out of town frequently, often for not many days; but each boat has to have the full Crew; which takes about ten men; so often the women will remain close home to be there when the men return; and no matter what meeting comes, they simply are not on hand for it. And most of the younger folks just roam the hillsides or the beach day after day all summer long. But on Sabbath for Sunday school, the mothers do try to get their offspring together for this meeting. And we have several new babies lately which is keeping quite a few at home too.

We have been busy since July 5th, trying to get the new roof on the church and it looks now as if we will succeed, but it will cost quite a bit; I know but I tried to pay the men at so much a bundle for each bundle of shingles driven; but they were not willing for this; wanted paid by the hour; so as I could not get any other help I conceded to their idea of what they thought and they worked very well so far. I will be so happy when I get it done and can have a dry church, it has been a wet place ever since the storm last Autumn.

The school teachers have left (transferred to Junneau) and honestly I feel queer here alone amongst these people; tho theyare kind to me; and seem alright; still I would be helpless if anything did come up. And I am thankful it is the daylight season, so that I can keep an eye on the village maneuvers in general. But new teachers are to be here soon and I for one will be glad whenthey get here. I say not a word locally, and the Eskimo dont know I am afraid of some of them. We had the yearly round up of reindeer which took a lot of men from town, but when the most of the women went to camp there; I went too, and surely had a nice time with them.

I am almost out of Statistical report blanks again. And when talking with Elder Louis Tungwenuk lately; he says he would like us (you & me) to start these Wales people to come before the Session, to be taken into church membership, and thus learn to do the right way. And the Elders wish us to provide a book of the proper type in which be recorded all things concerning church membership, births, deaths etc etc. so it can be available for future reference to the persons to work here. So I am writing you so you may have time to get such abook to bring us.

Sincerely hoping you will come this Fall I remain

Emma M. Stauffer

Wales.Alaska.
July I5th.I938.

Interpreters for this month;

June I6th__Dwight Tevuk
" I9____Elder led meeting(no interpreter home)
" 23 __Alfred Mazonna
" 26___Willie Senningetuk
" 30___ Dwight Tevuk
July 3 ___Willie Senningetuk
" 7 ____Dwight Tevuk
" I0____Willie Senningetuk
" I4__ __Alfred Mazonna

Signed_ Emma M. Stauffer

September 6th, 1938

Miss Emma M. Stauffer
Wales
Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

Replying to yours of July 15th, I am writing to say that we are sending you by mail a Sessional Record which contains pages to record the names of the members of the church, baptisms, etc., and also space for keeping the minutes of the meetings of the Session.

I think that Mr. Tungwenuk is absolutely right in his feeling that records ought to be kept of meetings of the Session and that everyone who wants to join the church should come before the Session for examination in the regular way, and he is certainly right in his desire that everything concerning the church membership, namely, baptisms, dates of birth, deaths, marriages, and so on should be carefully recorded.

The mission property at Wales belongs to our Board and it is not available for occupancy by government teachers except when arrangements are made between our Board and the Government to make it available for the use of teachers or other government employees. We understand that the Government has provided quarters for its teachers and nurse, and it would therefore seem to be quite unnecessary for them to make use of our mission house which was erected, and is kept in repair by appropriation of mission funds, for the use of the missionary.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS

Wales. Alaska.
Aug.6th, 1938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#156 5th. Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

You have not heard from me direct for some time,and maybe you will be surprised,but I am not ready to give you the account of our local expense yet as we are not quite finished,but will be sending that along at a later date.

I am wondering if you have anything in the form of a catalog from which we could select the type of Fuel oil stoves;we had in our previous correspondence contemplated purchasing for next year. If you have or can get one to send me I shall appreciate your kindness very much. As from persons who have came along this way,to whom I would mention the fact that I was considering the idea of getting oil stoves next year and doing away with the use of coal;from every one I would get this warning answer;yes oil fuel stoves are very good;provided you get a stove too large for the space(room)you plan to warm. People who have had experience with these oil stoves up this way say;the trouble is;the Firm that makes the stoves;gives Alaskans a stove that will heat a room of a certain space in the states; whereas to heat the room of that same space in this part of Alaska, it requires a stove just twice the size the stove company wants to send to us. All men I have talked with tell me to be sure and get large stoves;because the large stove in reality consumes less fuel oil than the little stove that has to be kept very hot all the time. And it seems the life of the fuel oil stove is short. So it may be that what we save in coal we may spend for stoves, and it is true that the fuel oil makes a very loud roaring noise when burning. Does the Firm not yet have some mode of silencing this. I hope you can get me a catalog so we can know what we should choose in the line of Fuel oil stoves.

Also I am enclosing the bill as sent to me from Schwabackers,and have added to it the articles that were for my own use and would be pleased if there is any more of this years order that in your judgment should be mine to finance,will you please add them onto this bill then return the same to me. You may wonder why I do this;but I get into difficulties with the natives who still think the mission should provide luxuries for them,and it is a great help to me to know exactly what is mission,and what is mine;that is;what I have paid for myself. I wish to pay for the Santa Claus suit,because the minute my back is out of sight of Wales the things get scattered;and not all by the natives at all Did the mission furnish the mattress and bed blankets,and comforts? I am not in need of bedding,but ask this to know where I am at? As there have been times when I have been oblidged to lend bed covers to the folks who were teachers here;and I have to be right after them to get them all home again,every one has their eyes on the missions good wool blankets. When the missionary is out of town and the mission keys are in a natives hand and the teachers or travelers want in,they compel the native to let

___them into the Manse,such happened after Miss Bannan left here, when the Government nurse got in;made fire and helped herself,all because she scared the natives into letting her have access to the mission house.

Am I right that the mission now owns this house;and that being the case surely the teachers,nor the traveling nurse has not any right to be in here in the abscence of the missionary.

I ask you these things because it seems that since the teachers have been transferred;that the ones who will next come will likely be located here indefinitely(this is the report of the teachers who were here last year) and if I know this is no longer a government building then it becomes clear that in my abscence the teachers etc have no right to come in here.

Recently I went to Nome for two; yes almost three days;but I took the key to my house with me.

Hoping to hear from you in the near future I remain

Sincerely yours

Emma M. Stauffer

P.S. I was forgetting to say that just yesterday I gave permission for the mission to be charged with the Lightering of this years supplies which amounts to $84.00;this seems like a lot to me;but it is only $4.00 per ton here,while at Teller Alaska,they charge more than twice this amount,but as I had never did this before it was a new thing,as Capt. Backland always paid the local Lighterage;and I presume settled it with the board later. I had wired to Mr Gould to get the exact tonnage,and as his reply in tonnage conflicted with the amount the Eskimo claimed I finnally got the correct amount from the Alaska steamship Co's office when in Nome. I had kept the Eskimo waiting until I thot Ø I would get s instructions from you or Mr Gould as to whether I was to settle for the local lighterage;but as no word came I have did what seemed I should do. The Eskimo have waited a month for this;and have been as I must say; more gentlemen like about it than most white folks would have been.

They have all worked so congenially,and willingly at getting the new roof put on that I can hardly believe they are the same Eskimo th they were a couple years ago,and it is such a relief to have a dry seat for them to sit on for services these days,when it seems to rain,rain & rain every day almost. Tho I had to pay them 40¢ per hour,the men at other places were getting some 60¢,and some 80¢ per hour,so I got busy and used every man that would work,and all went well,and we are nearly do done. It came round_up reindeer time for the summer so we all had to part _icipate in this ;me too;as this is as good as a County Fair in the state to us,and we surely have a big time at it.But I will be writing you again later in the summer.

Sincerely yours

Emma M Stauffer

Wales.Alaska.

Aug.I9th,I938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#I56_5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr.Somerndike;

You will think by the number in attendance in the enclosed reports that something has happened to us,and so it has for so many of my people are away that it seems almost like deserted village these days,in comparison to what it is in winter when they are all at home.

But what few are here are so congenial and so kind that I can not help but think I am quite safe amongst them; but I admit I do feel a bit doubtful at times,but it is still all daylight;except for a heavy twilight at midnight;which helps to buoy up ones confidence much better than during the dark season; when ones thots will remind one that this race is veryvery child_ _like yet,so that their kindnesses are often used as a covering for something they are planning to do. But I hear the steamship North Star is on its way;and it will soon be here with teachers for us.

The men here seem so pleased with the church as the new roof looks so nice,and keeps the interior dry,and it may be I am mistaken;but to me it seems to make the church warmer,as the wind dont seem to get into it as much as previously. And we have the new Plate up now on the wall and the men are pleased with it too,I dont think the women have seen it yet. I have not yet gotten the amount of the bill from the Store for the labor but will be getting it likely next month sometime,to send to you.

I have hardly counted half of my visits amongst homes because there are so few here,and when I am out in town I find myself stopping and visiting just with the women as they are out working, and when they were at Reindeer camp,I went too for one day,and I did the same there,and lunch time found me helping to wash dishes in the tent where several women and girls do the cooking etc;one does enjoy being amongst them;at least I do;and it helps one to forget being alone with them,but I just cannot begin to keep tract of my visiting amongst them.

Just now the town is quiet except for the usual howl of their numerous dogs;and the high wind. The U.S.C Guard ship the North Land is at anchor in our Bay;its medical Crew having been in town for several hours,looking after the natives,and many went in their own boats to the ship for examination for eye glasses. I; in the abscence of any our teachers was over at the school helping to get the people cared for too,but did not go to the ship with them, because the mailship is due any minute;and as the Assist. Postmaster went to get his eyes tested;I am staying ashore so if the mail comes I can receive it and send out what there is to go.

Thanking you for your kind help in many ways, and for the promise of a visit from Rev Youel again this Fall;and with best regards I remain Sincerely yours Emma M. Stauffer

Wales.Alaska.

Aug.I5th,I938.

List of the Interpreters for the month ending on August I4th,I938.

July I7th ___Alfred Mazonna
" 2Ist_ _Willie Senningetuk
" 28th____Dwight Tevuk
" 28 ___ _____ No meeting held,most of people at Reindeer Camp
" 3I _____Alfred Mazonna
Aug. 4th____Willie Senningetuk
" 7 ____Dwight Tevuk
" II _____Alfred Mazonna
" I4 _____Willie Senningetuk

Emma M Stauffer

E. M. S.

Sept.
7th
1938

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

Replying to your letter of August 6th, I will say that I have written to Mr. Gould asking him to make inquiries with reference to the type of fuel oil stoves which are best adapted to the cold climate of Wales. I am sure he will be able to suggest something.

I am unable at this writing to give you the total cost of the articles that were included in your shipment this year which are chargeable to your personal account, because Mr. Gould has not yet sent me all the bills.

The mattress, bed blankets and comforts will be an expense of the Board when you need to purchase them. They will not be your personal expense.

If there is a house provided by the Government for the teacher and traveling nurse, it seems to us that unless you have a special desire to extend the hospitality of the manse to these people there is no reason why you should be expected to provide quarters for them. Of course, if the Government does not provide any quarters for the teacher or traveling nurse and if you have room to accommodate either or both of them, I am sure that you would be willing to make some arrangement if possible to provide living quarters for them upon payment on their part of a reasonable rental for their rooms and a proportionate cost of the fuel. However, you are under no obligation to take them if it is not congenial for you to do so.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Wales. Alaska.

Sept. I2th,I938

Rev J E Youel.
and
Dr J.M.Somerndike.

Dear friends;

Here it is time for reports again,the time is going so fast and from the feel of the wind;it is so ,that our winter is just around the corner ;so to speak. We have had many frosts,thus our grass looks like old brown straw. The black berries are getting ripe along our mountain slopes while each morning the tip of the highest Mt.is white with snow. But East Cape of Siberia,and the U S Diamede Islamd are all white almost all the time now. The snow flakes sailed thick right in Wales one day for a few minutes,but the wet earth soon melted it all away.

Our days are getting shorter,and shorter,and I am obliged to light my gasoline lamp now by 8 o'c P M daily. And we have to use lights for all evening services in the church for the last three weeks.

We do not yet have any school teachers__but they will come if we are patient;as new ones usually get here about the I3th of Oct. But life goes merrily on intown. A few of the summer travelers have came home;and gon again down the coast for gathering berries. While others are still away and will be until the tin business closes down for the winter;and some that are in Nome cannot get home until the Steamship,North Star brings them;or they can come by dog team. But the folks who are here are so kind and so congenial;to me that I wonder what prank they may have schemed out to do,as time goes on I have gotten over my fear of being here alone;(as far as my own race is concerned);it does seem that they are trying to make up in kind_ ness to me,that which my aloneness had given me.

Elder Louis Tungwenuk came to me last week about choosing a color scheme for the interior of the store building(which mission gave them) Eskim had painted it two years ago;but made such a job,that Louis wanted to repaint;so;as our supplies had not came; I went and helped him and his workers to paint,and now he seems very happy over his clean place,and the supplies are to be here this week;and I will then help him,as he asked me to;check up with his order sheets etc. Thus you see when we have no teacher;at all; or one who will not step into the store and help the Eskimo to get order out chaos(when the years supply come in),the man who likes his things orderly seeks help where he can get it;and I am glad to help wherever they ask me to

The medical work is practically nil this month,and I enjoyit My visiting to their homes are some what casually as we have just I2 new babes to be baptized this Fall;and my calls are not real visits nor medical but intermingled;and many a pleasant time I have had with them too.

Now;a dear old woman who cannnot talk to me has came in to give me a note from her grand_daughter for some eye medicine so I shall slose this and go look after her ere it gets dusk. One youg man got a tooth extracted by the medical crew of a ship,and is having some trouble with an infection in the jaw bone;so he will be here soon too for treatment.

Hoping to see you about Thanksgiving I remain
Yours in His service

Emma M. Stauffer

Wales. Alaska.

Sept. I2th.I938.

List of Interpreters for month ending Sept I4th.I938.

Aug I8th___Dwight Tevuk
" 2I ___Alfred Mazonna
" 25 ___Willie Senningetuk
" 28____Dwight Tevuk
Sept I ___Willie Senningetuk
" 4 ____Alfred Mazonna
" 8_____Dwight Tevuk
" II_____Alfred Mazonna

Signed Emma M Stauffer

E. M. S.

Wales. Alaska.

Sept. I6th,I938.

Dr. J.M.Somerndike.
#I56__5th Ave.
New York.
N.Y.

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

I have just yesterday received the bill from the Wales Village Store for the amount of $368.26 as standing and correct with my account of credits given to those persons who have worked for the mission since I sent you the bill last year some time toward the Autumn.

This includes labor for removing and reconstructing the platform in the church,after Rev Youel sanctioned this should be done;last Autumn. And the longshoring of this years mission supplies;in which is also the lighterage of supplies from ship to the beach;2I tons @ $4.00 is $84.00, this is the regular rate for Lighterage per ton here.

And then only part for the removal of old shingles,old nails of old roof,and completing putting on of the new roof on the church.

And the remainder of the expenses of the roofing I have paid from my own;only because the men had to have money to buy food supplies else where;as even yet our Stores supplies have not yet arrived;but due any day now) and the men who had no way to go elsewhere to get flour;when mine arrived they got some from me in pay while they worked; so I have paid for the Mission during the year the amount of $II5.90.

And when you do make out your check in payment to the Store;please make it payable to the Wales Village Store_and send it to me and I shall turn it over to the Eskimo there.

I have not heard from either you or Mr Gould for so long,I am wondering what mistake I have made that has caused you both to get so quiet.

The work goes on very nicely and quietly;and as for anything I know of all seems peaceable in town. So many families are away after work and after berries that there are very few of us in town at any time. The Eskimo have been so kind and congenial all summer;and they did work so faithfully at roofing the church;and it rained practically every day;and the wind was so strong a lad had to hold onto a bale of shingles when once its tie was cut,or they were soon all down on the ground around my feet,but the men worked away because every day the rain was wetting the interior of the church so much,they knew they needed to get the roof on quickly.

I have written asking Rev Youel to come to us for Thanksgiving,and he too is quiet,as I have not heard from him yet.

Am expecting the mail boat anyday now;if the sea quiets down that it can send the mail ashore;the last time the Eskimo went out to it. Hoping I may hear from you favorably I am

Sincerely yours Emma M. Stauffer

Wales. Alaska.
Oct.I7th,I938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike &

Rev.J.E.Youel. ;

Dear Friends;

Well here it is report time again;and you will find them all enclosed herein,for the month ending Oct I4th inst.

There has been very little medical work this month besides a few cuts and bruises.

On the first Sabbath in October,I began the girls Bible classes and it would just surprise you at the interest they are taking in them,some are committing the Ten Commandments and select verses of the Bible to memory;preparatory to reciting them before the whole Sabbath School,and receiving a Bible as a reward of merit.

Two young men called late last Saturday evening to inquire as to when I would be starting their Bible class;which I shall begin as soon as our new school teachers get their weekly schedule of evening classes arranged so I will know when to hold my classes. So my winters work is already on its way.

I was very much surprised to have our new teacher's wife ask me to come and teach Bible stories to the children in the school_room;and when I do this then I will not be so rushed with so many classes on Sabbath after_noons. School just opened today;and even yet not all our people are home.

Life is so pleasant these time since many of our folks have returned to town;it has increased the attendance of all our Evangalistic meetings; and our Sabbath School is so full it is like a Bee_hive,in the respect of activity and capacity. But it is nice to have them all here.

We were all so dissapointed that Rev Youel did not get here this week,all the folks with babies to be baptized came home and I think due to the cold weather season soon to be here;will likely not go back to the Tin Mines again this Autumn.

Our Store's goods at last arrived and as the teachers were then not yet here;as the Eskimo asked me to help him check up on his shipment invoices;I have put in many hours helping him to do so;and now he is very pleased,and very busy looking after his store work.

One family has moved out of town for the winter at least; because the young man;who had been at school at Sitka for the past seven years and came home last year;has been sent to do some teaching in the line ivory carving;and native arts at a school at what is called Teller Mission Alaska. I will miss him;as he was one of our Sabbath School teachers,but I can easily get some one here to take his place at this.

Our teachers came from the section of U S A where the Board of National Missions has work amongst the Indians;and have told me many interesting things about our work at Ganado,and its out stations etc. So it makes us feel a but closer together than government teachers and missionarys usually do be. So I am looking forward to a pleasant winter with their help.

Hoping that Rev. Youel will be around by next Sabbath and to hear from you at your convenience I am

Sincerely yours

Emma M. Stauffer

Wales. Alaska. Oct,17th.1938.

List of names of Interpreters for this month.

Sept.	15th 1938	Willie Senningetuk	for a funeral service.
"	15	Alfred Mazonna.	
"	13	Dwight Tevuk	
"	22	Willie Senningetuk	
"	25	Alfred Mazonna	
"	29	Dwight Tevuk	
Oct	2	Willie Senningetuk	Requested by S S Supt as we had a
"	2	Alfred Mazonna	lesson on Temperance.
"	6	Dwight Tevuk	
"	9	Robert Mayo	
"	13	Louis Tungwenuk	

Signed.

Emma M. Stauffer

Oct.
21st
1938

Miss Emma M. Stauffer,
Wales, Alaska

Dear Miss Stauffer:

I am enclosing a check for $368.26 drawn to the order of the Wales Village Store in accordance with the request contained in your letter of September 16th.

Do I understand from your letter that in addition to this amount we are indebted to you for the sum of $115.90 representing expenses which you paid for food, etc., in connection with the labor in re-roofing the church? If so, kindly let me know and I shall send you the check at once. We are delighted to learn that the repairs have been completed and that the church seems to be much more comfortable and easier to heat.

With kind regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Wales. Alaska.

Oct.3Ist,I938.

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#I56_5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

THis is just a short letter to tell you Rev. Youel is here,came last Friday and has been a very,very busy man every minute since his arrival.

He will surely have an interesting report of his trip here,as well as his work here,to send you later on. I can still picture the line_up of infants to be baptized,just I3 of them,in the church last evening,before Communion services.

He has signed the reprts here;as the mail was too slow to have it gone from here ere his arrival;so I am sending it along with this short note to you.

I sincerely hope he reaches Fairbanks safely;the Mail_plane is due here tomorrw and he expects to leave us by it. Everything is white with snow but the weather is not yet cold enough to annoy us at all,but it hard when one is not used to being in such a climate as we have,and your Plane has to leave you at a village for several days and help in emergency work for other Planes.

Hoping to be remembered in your prayers for the work here and myself I remain

Obediently yours

Emma M. Stanglow

Wales. Alaska.
Nov.14th,1938.

Names of Interpreters for month ending Nov.14th '38.

Oct 16th Robert Mayo
" 20 Dwight Tevuk
" 23 Willie Senningetuk
" 29 Robert Mayo
" 30 Dwight Tevuk for nooday services.
" 30 Robert Mayo for Baptismal;and Communion Services.

Nov. 3rd Elder Theodore Statuk led Prayer Meeting.
" 10th Willie Senningetuk
" 13 Alfred Nazonna
" 6 Dwight Tevuk

Signed Emma M Stauffer.

E.M. Stauffer

Wales. Alaska.
Nov. 2Ist, I938

Dr. J.M.Somerndike.
#I56__5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

The monthly Reports are herein and I hope will prove satisfactory to you. You will notice the attendance comming up;which is due to the fact the people are at home now,until they begin their yearly Trapping and hunting. Of course we have some who are not interested in church or its activities;except at the Holiday season,but I think every community have this type of humanity.

May I thank you for the Church Registry book we have recently received;and have already began to use. This is something that will be a benefit to this Community as long as this place exists,and I am very grateful for it.

Our teachers were telling me,they thought it strange that there had never been any memorial Statue or anything put up in honor of Dr.Sheldon Jackson,as he had certainly done much for the people of this place;being the man who solicited funds from his own friends in the U S A and brought the first reindeer to Alaska from Siberia(or Lapland) I think the former place,and thus began an Industry for the Natives of Alaska. And he was also the man who was back of the opening of Mission work here as the Historical Tablet in our church states the church was organized or established by Sheldon Jackson on July 4th I890. But I said nothing as to what I thought about this, except that I thought that the school at Sitka was likely for this purpose,tho I myself do not know.

Rev. Youel was asking of me when I was due to go out on leave,and when he learned that I began in I934,mentioned the fact that probably I could be let go out to the Assembly meeting(or was it Synod)I think the former;and if the mission was willing for this,then that Church Body,would pay my expenses. But I told him I had not been told by you a word about my going out next year,so I only mention this now so in case he may write to you of it that you will only need to let me know when and if I may go and as to the handling of the financial end of it until the right time for reimbursement from the mission;or that church Body herein afore referred to. And I sincerely hope you will not think me forward in asking for this information;as our mail service this winter seems it will be more slow than usual,one has to start anything about three months ahead of time as it would take me at least a week to get my local attachments arranged for. But I do not wish to be gone from my place more than three months at the most;because One's work gets all out of order,and is in a sad state to return to when One is away longer.

The people were so pleased to have Rev. Youel come ; and he did so much for us;and I do appreciate you allowing him to come. He had to Baptize just I3 infants___dear oh me such a crowd of them_ but he certainly knows how to handle them, I do think if there had been more it would have been just the same to him. And we had such a nice Church Service(preparatory to Communion)Sat. evening. And he will likely be w telling you that now we have four Elders,I making the fourth one,and this made it so that we served Communion more satisfactory than ever before. Just here I want to say that one thing I need badly is Individual service for Communion;and will put this in my next years order.

2 sheet for Dr. Somerndike.

As for the attitude of the village;as far as I know they are content and I must say they have been very,very nice to me all the past year. Of course I have done much for them and try to make them see that what I do; is for their own good;and it has taken them most by surprise when I asked to help get a decent job of the painting of the interior of their Store room for them this Autumn;and we certainly did work,of course many of the men are good workers;but slow; if they have some one to work right with them;which I find is best to do,if I want a success of anything.

Now I will be ordering paint forthe interior of the church and it is so hard looking that Rev. Youel tells me to ask for sufficient paint o give it three coats,it has never been painted and if you will allow me enough paint to make a good job of it ; I feel sure the mission will be well rewarded for the expense of it.

But it does seem to me that it would be cheaper to get the paint in larger size receptacles than a gallon;when it will take so much,surely it will sell at a better rate. I think best to send you the dimensions and have you or Mr Gould get an Expert painter to cipher out just how much it will take;and it may seem odd that I ask for enough for three coats,but when I got enough for two coats for the outside of the church;I came out away short,and just happened to have some old on hand from the painting the Manse,which did finish it;which was more good luck than good management. But I do not have anything in the line of paint to resort to now at all.

Now I do hope you will not tire of this ere you finish reading it as I do not write often,when I do you hear maybe more than you wish to. But it is almost time to make out my orders for another year;and get ready for our Christmas activities locally and this will keep me busy for some time to come.

Wishing you a Joyous Holiday season,thanking you for your kindness to us here in maintaining and supporting us; I ask that we be remembered in your prayers;for the work here,as I have more ready co_operation in all lines of endeavours than I have ever found in any place I have ever labored for the spread of the Gospel before,and I do hope and pray that this willing spirit may continue with us.

Sincerely yours

Emma M. Stauffer.

Wales. Alaska.

Dec 16th 1938

Dr, J.M. Somerndike & Rev. John E Youel ;

My dear Co_workers;

Here it is report time again and I do think the last ones are still in the Wales Post Office because we have not received any mail, or been able to send any out since on last November 1st.

So herein enclosed are the reports for this month. You will notice I have many Classes in Bible study; just because I cannot teach this as we do in the states, as these people cannot absorb it much except in the story form, this is true of even my adult boys class, but once they get a story set in their minds it does seem to be well settled.

It is most interesting to observe the attempt my adult boys are making at committing to memory the work as the girls of my Catechism class are doing; but I often wonder what progress they would make if I for any reason did not repeat, and repeat many, many times right with them. Several boys have perfect attendance records so far this winter. And I do enjoy helping them.

Just lately I am sort of busy getting ready for Christmas activities; and as there are just 196 Eskimo in town, it is so that I have just that many packages to tie up, and it is best the missionary do this; because the people are very jealous; about me getting anyone in to help, ere that one might get more than his share of something.

I had the government reindeer Sup't for this section here for just 13 nights; he got here by a Plane on Nov 29th, and had it in his mind to go north to Shishmaref onthe mail Plane; which as yet has never came, but he got tired of waiting and left by dog team on Dec 12th. The teachers gave him dinner and supper, and he sleptat my house, and got his breakfast here also. Of course in the end he paid me for his board, but I do not enjoy running a hotel for men who are not interested in anything but gossip; which I myself, since living one year at Barrow, learned it was best to not even hear, so I am glad he has gone.

Wales people have been very healthy all this winter so far, so that I have had very little to do for them, and I hope this state keeps up.

As for the other phases of my work we seem to be getting along very well all are interested in their classes I hold for them, and I myself am surprised at the way these girls are getting their Catechism learned, I gave the Bibles to three girls that were done with the memory work, when Rev Youel was here, and as soon as the other girls get done with the Catechism; then we have the special memory work as; Psalm, I, 23rd Psalm, IO commandments, the Beattitudes, and the Saying about II Tim. 2 ch, 15th verse, which Rev Youel told them and many other things concerning Bible, that I tell them they are to recite for the whole Sabbath School; and then I will give them each a Bible; which this mail should bring; but if it dont then they can do their reciting, and get Bibles late

Now I am very, very sorry to have to tell you something, you will not like because I myself cannot like it and I am right here with it every day, and I am going to ask you to let me stay right with it too, as long as necessary to do so Well here it is; our teachers; for Thanksgiving put on an Entertainment Program and I let them give it in the church, because the church is the only building in Wales large enough to hold the whole populatin at once; which is always on hand for special occassions. Well they had an affair in the Program, that the children got so excited over as they did it; about 25 girls up on the Pulpit platform; that they just ran around and around and finally gallopped off the platform down to their seats. Well I let it go for that time as I could do nothing then and there. But when the teachers began getting plans up for a Christmas Program; when I was at their home one evening they talked things over, and after I came home I thot things looked as if they were just going to get into a wilder frolic for Christmas and I went to them before they began

giving out the recitations in school the next morning;and explained my attitude toward such maneuvers in a church,that I did not think we should encourage such to be done by any one; in a church. But the woman told me that the children wanted that especially, and when I referred to the childrens manner of getting off the stage(platform) she said they were so excited they would not mind her;which I know was true, for it was plainly seen. But she is so determined to make every one of we adults do just as she says,that she went right ahead and trained the children for it; which was giving so much fun; fun to my Protegee,that he comes home and tells me at lunch time what fum they were having getting that DANCE ready for the Christmas Program,and as I asked what he meant;he replied,oh you know that wild dance they did on the platform in the church at Thanksgiving time; we are more of us going to be in it this time and it will be a big one.

Well I just thot no use to ask the teachers again to leave that out,for she was just not going to do it. And then I sented for the two Elders to come to my house to talk over some things,that they should help with,and after talking the situation over,they said for me totry again myself,and see if I could get her to not have that part that they(Eskimo & children) called a Dance. So I did as they asked me to do,as a result,both teachers are on the edge,but my conscience is clear on the matter;and my Elders did not want such maneuvers repeated;for as they said it might be passed over now but after while everyone would want to have that at each special Entertainment Program. So my Elders promised me they would be loyal to me in the matter. Which seems now as if might be cleared so that the teachers will give the Program in the school house,and as it is practically impossible to have one set of children learn two Programs I think we will likely just decorate our church(I do it) and take all our missions Donation gifts(which I have all done up in nice parcels ready to put into one receptacle for each family) over to the church on Saturday evening,and we do have our own Christmas singing; as we have always done that part for any former teachers since I am here;upon their requesting it; and I think the Elders will get someone to be Santa Claus for us,so we will have a nice time anyway.

And if I can get hold of the young Eskimo who are the Leaders of the Society that are to give the Christmas Program;I think I can get them to give the Program for us on Saturday eveing;and have them promise me they will not do the Dance and I feel sure it will be done alright; since Elder Louis& Theodore said they would instruct their children that such actions should not be in a place of worship. The teachers are having their maneuvers on the evening of Dec 23rd at the school house.

Now I am telling you all this to try to make plain to you that these new teachers are almost undermining all the work we have done here;for the Eskimo are of the opinion that they must do as the teachers say so if I was not here I know the teachers would do just as they pleased with the church,and use it as they wished. I recall Rev Youel saying that the school was their job; and when they cant work with us;I do wish they would work on their own side of the fence,she has already almost broken up our Choir;she cant sing,or wont,and can not play the organ at all. My Elders say why dont she sing and help us and not find fault with us;I am really sorry for the Eskimo;I can lookout for them when I am here; and at the same time get along with them as well as my neighbors and protect our church work here;when I am here always.

And I am writing you to ask you to PLEASE not make any arrangement for me to go out to the States this summer,nor next summer, because I am needed here worse now than ere I got here,and I want to stay at least as long as these two teachers are here which will likely be one,or possibly two years at the most. Then I can go out after that,if I need anything for myself in the meantime I can manage to get it at Nome,Alaska.

Now please dont not get it into your mind that I am quarreling;I am not; I look after my own affairs,and will; as long as God gives me wisdom and physical strength to do so.

I am ashamed to tell you all this but I had to; to keep you from acting on a former letter I had written to one of you;and spoken of to Rev Youel. I hope to hear from you as to my action taken.

Sincerely yours E. M. Stauffer

Wales. Alaska.

Dec I5,I938

List of Interpreters who served during the month ending Dec I5 inst.

November	I7th	Robert Mayo
"	20	Robert Mayo
"	24	Dwight Tevuk
"	27	Willie Seningetuk
December	Ist	Alfred Mazonna
"	4	Robert Mayo
"	8	Dwight Tevuk
"	II	Alfred Mazonna
"	I5	Robert Mayo

Signed Emma M Stauffer.

Wales. Alaska.
Dec 22nd, I938

Dr.J.M.Somerndike.
#I56__5th Ave.
New York.

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

As the Plane with our first mail since Nov,Ist just halted long anought to send in several sacks of mail,and is gone northward,and will return in about one hour or less,I am sending this short note to you,just to tell you that because of local conditions; I beg you to not make any arrangements to let me;or to send me out to the States this year or in I939(I mean) because I surely am needed right here on the job.

There is aletter on the way to Rev Youel, that has the details of my reason for asking this__and I do hope that you will heed my request,and keep all information to yourself.

I am all ready for Christmas; will decorate the church on Saturday;and we will have the Entertainment Program in the church on Saturday evening,the 24th,as is our custom of doing,the Eskimo have their races etc of Dogteams,skis,foot races, between now and Saturday night,and it seems as if all will go well.

Our Teachers do be thusly;the man is a Presbyterian and the woman is nothing;she says she used to be a Baptist;all this was given information;I did not solicit it at all. But even a blind man can not help but see some things.,but I have said enough. So I wish to stay right here on the job,with my Eskimo and how I do enjoy them. My white neighbors tried to break up my Wednesday night Boys Bible class,but I am still holding it,as the boys and I together arrange for it.

May I wish you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and prosperous New Year.

Faithfully yours

Emma M. Stauffer

Wales. Alaska.
Dec.30th,I938.

Dr. J.M.Somerndike.
#I56__Fifth Ave.
New York.

3/30/39
Paid

Dear Dr. Somerndike;

Your letter of October the 2Ist,just got here on Dec 22nd,and I thank you for the Wales Village Store check;which I turned over to the Store that day and they were pleased to receive it.

Regarding the amount of $II5.90; yes you did understand rightly;as the Mission still owes this amount to me.

I plan to send out my yearly order for supplies on this mail that should get here on Jan.Ist;if I can get ready. And I do hope that you can supply us stoves calculated to heat rooms larger than the measurements of my rooms; because Alaska is much colder than many places in the states,and what space a certain size stove can heat in the states;needs a stove twice that size for the same space in this climate. But our church does not seem to be so terribly cold thus far this winter;I think because of the good roof on it.

The Eskimo Elders are all excited over me asking you for paintfor the inside of the church;for it is so miserable looking and one would think they might donate some labor; but their general condition and poverty makes me feel I should pay them wages,for those left here in summer time(after many go to work at the tin mines) have no income except what work I give them,and the Lighterage of School teachers supplies etc;and some Tin for the Tin Co,about twice a season.

But as for a good job of the painting of the interior of the church;I know full well that I will have to be right on the job; because the ordinary Eskimo makes a finished job of painting to look like an old Hen would who had a dozen or two chicks to scratch for,I have had many a good laugh to myself when theydo paint for me,but I do enjoy helping them to learn how to do it better. So I earnestly hope to stay right on the job; and beat Satan at his tricks; and have my church all clean and nice when Rev. Youel gets here another Autumn.

$7.00 credited Grants books tracts
1/15/37

I am enclosing my check to you for just I4 Hymn books sold at 50¢ each and hope this is satisfactory to you. And now I must get at my order for this year. I hope you had a good Christmas and may I wish you a Happy New Year even if this letter is late getting away fro here,my wish is still the same.

Thanking you for your kind help and soliciting your prayers and guidance in the work here___I here ask you again to not arrange for me to go away from here until I can let you know when it is suitable for me to leave, I am

P S__My Sunday School teachers badly need the teachers quarterly in which each verse of the lesson is very plainly explained__the kind we had in the year I937__they just cannot handle the type we receive for I938,may we please have the kind as the sheet I have enclosed to you, thank you kindly.

Sincerely yours
Emma M. Stauffer.